PRAYERS

IN

THE HILL SCHOOL CHAPEL

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Prayers

Boyd Howard

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PRAYERS

SELECTED FROM DEVOTIONAL SERVICES

OF

THE MASTERS LEADING CHAPEL

IN

THE HILL SCHOOL

COMPILED AND EDITED

BY

BOYD EDWARDS

1928

TO

THE BLESSED MEMORY

OF

MY MOTHER

HARRIET LOUISE BOYD EDWARDS

WHO

LIVED HER WHOLE LIFE

IN

A LITTLE VILLAGE

YET

KEPT HER HEART GREAT ENOUGH

FOR

THE WHOLE WORLD

A Personal Greeting

BY

BOYD EDWARDS

THE generosity of friends affords me the great pleasure of presenting to every fellow, who has been at The Hill during the six years of my Headmastership, this selection of prayers offered in the daily Chapel services.

As I recall my own school and college days at Andover and Williams, I now realize, with a full flood of feeling, how fortunate I should count myself if I possessed a record of the actual words of dear and honored friends among my instructors there.

Memories of personalities who have kindled us abide, but too seldom have we any living word of theirs to keep. I believe, therefore, that my boys, as they grow older and their youth takes its truer perspective and brightens in the radiance of happy memory,

will cherish increasingly these characteristic utterances of their friends and teachers of days gone by. The personal quality of each master is presented in his devotional expressions here recorded. One can see his face, hear his tone, catch his spirit again. That is all a value too fine to lose.

One of the most thrilling experiences of my life at The Hill—daily repeated yet never commonplace — has been to watch the company of four hundred boys leave the evening chapel service. Out into the darkness of the outer world they go, *two by two, in token of the friendship of school days.* Out from a warm and lighted shrine, filled with music and memories, and messages, they go as into the darkness, problems, mysteries, and challenges of the life of the world. How much of the warmth and the light, the music, memories and messages, fused into power and protection, do they bear forth as their sword and shield for the needs of their world-life?

In his poem *Clifton Chapel,* Henry Newbolt pictures a father taking his son back to the father's old school:

"This is the Chapel; here, my son,
Your father thought the thoughts of youth,
And heard the words that, one by one,
The Touch of Life has turned to truth.

* * * * *

"Today and here the fight's begun;
Of the great fellowship you're free;
Henceforth the School and you are one,
And what You are, the race shall be.

* * * * *

"God send you fortune; yet be sure,
Among the lights that gleam and pass,
You'll live to follow none more pure
Than that which glows on yonder brass."

WHATSOEVER THINGS ARE TRUE

Watch Ye, Stand Fast in the Faith, Quit You Like Men. Be Strong

Whatsoever things are true
Watch ye Stand fast in the faith Quit you like men Be Strong

FOR all Thy bounty, for bodies clean and strong,
For strength to strive and courage to endure,
For boyhood's hope and manhood's high emprise,
We thank Thee, O Lord, and pray Thee keep us pure.

For all Thy bounty, for minds alert and keen,
Clear light of truth, whose radiance never dies,
Chaplet of bay, and laurels hardly won,
We thank Thee, O Lord, and pray Thee make us wise.

For all Thy bounty, for faith which points the way,
Love which endures, and hope which springs anew,
Voices within, when tempters fierce assail,
We thank Thee, O Lord, and pray Thee keep us true.

ALFRED G. ROLFE

BLESS all our loved ones wherever they are and answer in our more perfect lives here their prayers in our behalf.

Bless all the old fellows wherever they may be and make us all one in Thee. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

JOHN MEIGS

On Founders'-Armistice Day

GOD, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for these days of memorial and remembrance; for those who suffered wounds and death for us in the great war; for all the history of the past which furnishes encouragement and inspiration for today and for the future.

We thank Thee for John Meigs, the builder of this School; for what he was and for what he strove to be and to do; for his devotion to truth, to high ideals, to noble aspirations; for his heroic life-long struggle to overcome natural tendencies to impatience, anger, love of power and stinging humor. We thank Thee that, without giving up any of his strength of individual character, he strove to be kindly, just and true. We thank Thee for the work he did here with tireless labor, heroic enthusiasm, and high devotion to principle. We thank Thee that we enter into the inheritance of what he builded so firmly that the foundations will stand.

Help us, Father, like him to know ourselves, to realize our shortcomings: and by study of Thy Word, by opening ourselves to every uplifting influence, by prayer as earnest and sincere as his, by high devotion to truth, to seek to grow into the image of Jesus Christ. Help us to give ourselves in service to our fellows; and help us to be so sane, so balanced in our thoughts and efforts, that we can be used by Thee to win others to the ideals of the gospel as actual working principles in daily life, and thus be effective in upbuilding the Kingdom of God on earth. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

THOU whose light is truth, help us to be *true*
to our visions of the greater values;
to our convictions of the higher ways;
to those who have lovingly trusted us;
to those who need our honesty;
to the monitor of conscience within;
to the counsel of the years against the hours;
to the tested standards of public righteousness;
to the common weal of our fellowmen;
to the laws of the Kingdom of Heaven;
to the brotherly wish of our Master;
to those beneficent enterprises Thou favorest;
to the eternal principle of love and to the still small voice.
Help us to be true.
For Jesus' sake. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

O God, help us to enter into our land of promise in the fear of the Lord. This City upon a Hill which we builded not, we dwell in; this land of our school life, rich in learning, upon which we labored not, is ours; of fruitful fields which we planted not, do we eat. Let us therefore fear the Lord who has so generously given, and let us serve Him sincerely. Let us put away any of the gods we may have served beyond the river—the gods of worldliness, of self-seeking, of ignorance—and let us choose this day whom we will serve, and let it be the consecrated answer of every boy of The Hill bowed here in prayer, "As for us, we will serve the Lord. For the Lord our God, He it is that has brought us up to this place of privilege, and preserved us in all the way wherein we went. Therefore we also will serve the Lord; for He is our God."

And what does the Lord require of us but to do justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly in His way? Make us then, O Father, teachable children, who shall love the light better than darkness and truth better than error. Make us honest and just in work and play; make us generous with our fellows; make us earnest and industrious; eager to acquire the truth that is so freely offered, and anxious for the upbuilding of that character that the world so sorely needs. We are freely given all things. May not the profusion and generosity of the gifts cause us to esteem them lightly. May they rather humble us, and cause our gratitude to be expressed in good works; in better school spirit; in more eager self-devotion, in fairer play, in harder work. May this school year be rich in effort and accomplishment. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

DEAR Heavenly Father, as we return to work from the pleasant days of vacation we would return thanks to Thee for Thy loving care over us; for sparing our lives, for giving us kind friends and loving parents, for giving us strong bodies and keen minds, for giving us tasks to do and obstacles to overcome. May we approach our duties with confidence realizing that in Thy strength we may conquer. Open our minds to all the wonders of science, to all the beauty of literature, to all of the dreams of art. May we think Thy thoughts after Thee. May we dare to do great things and grow in knowledge and in favor with God and man.

We would not pray for ourselves alone, Our Father, but for our fellows also. Make us helpful to them, kind and considerate. Give us hearts quick to respond to the needs of those about us.

We would also ask Thy gracious blessing on those who are sick, those who are unfortunate, those in trouble or distress. May they feel Thine everlasting arms about them to give them strength and comfort.

Especially bless all those who are bound to us by family ties. May we realize their hopes and aspirations for us and may we determine to be worthy of their trust in us. This, with the forgiveness of our sins, we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

WE thank Thee for this beautiful autumn day, our Father, and for the many joys it brought into our lives. Outwardly, today we could not help but feel a consciousness of Thy presence everywhere. So inwardly tonight in our hearts we pray that we may also feel the power of Thy love. By its cheer and its warmth may our hearts be cleansed from all evil passions and all unworthy deeds. May each one of us receive wisdom and strength and a knowledge of what Thou wouldst have us to do. Take from us all doubt and mistrust and help us clearly to discern the things which are right. And then give us the keener desire to do only those things. Lift our thoughts up to Thee in Heaven and make us to know that all things are possible to us through our faith in Thee. We ask this prayer with the forgiveness of our many sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

At the Year's Beginning

O Lord, our God, Thou hast been our salvation and our redemption, our hope and our strength in all the years we have known, and now as another year begins, we draw near Thee with reverence and humility, praying that Thou wilt be with us and dwell among us, enlightening our minds and encouraging our hearts and making us eager to do better than we have ever done before.

Take from us the remembrance and all the effect of our failures of the past, if it may be. Help us to think never again the thoughts of defeat and despair. Blot out of our lives the cowardice and complacency of the past and grant that we may go forward to the unknown future with courage so high and trust in Thee so pure that nothing may dismay us or strike fear to our souls.

Give us wisdom to build and to grow and to live after the pattern marked out for us in the life and thought of our Saviour, Jesus Christ, who came into the world to destroy the falsehood, the lusts, the sins of countless ages, and to bring into human life health and truth and abundant courage. Above all, O Lord, in Thine infinite goodness, give us strength to begin now the new life that each one of us wants to live this year, and forbid that we should put off to some uncertain time the work we must do if we would be faithful children of Thine.

Be with all who love us, with all for whose sakes we enter the new year with high resolves, with all who need our prayers and our love. Keep them and us in the dear fellowship which all the children of men enter when they lift up their hearts to Thee in sincere prayer; and at the end of our years let us enter into Thy presence in peace, having done our best. This we ask in the name and for the sake of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR Heavenly Father; as we go out from this service help us to do more honest thinking. Grant that our acts themselves may be the result of right thinking. Grant us health of mind as well as of body so that we may perform only such acts as shall bring credit on those who send us here. Bless the people at home and bring to their hearts the peace and satisfaction that come through the knowledge that their sons are achieving to the best of their ability in the work that lies at hand. Be with the men of The Hill who have gone on, and help us who are here to strive to maintain the fine traditions which they have established. Amen.

CHARLES L. SWIFT

OUR Father, we thank Thee for Thy gracious care which has brought us safely through this day. Help us to be true this night and faithful on the morrow. Keep our feet from forbidden paths. Forgive, we pray Thee, our broken vows. Keep us pure in heart and clean in life. May we resist every temptation and especially those that assail our thoughts and harass our imagination. Help us to hear Thy voice when it calls to us in humble duties, in commonplace obligations and in the ordinary courtesies of our daily life at School. Give us courage in defeat and humility in victory. May we efface our self-centered desires and make mutual surrenders for the good of our School. May the coming day bring us new visions, a new sense of duty and a new perception of opportunity. This we ask in the name of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

O God, the Father of us all; we come into Thy presence humbly and meekly, wanting to face ourselves as we really are in Thy sight. Help us to see with rugged honesty those things in our lives that cause us to fail when we most want to succeed, to hurt when we most want to help, to make enemies when we most want to make friends. May we have courage and faith and patience to overcome these weaknesses that are ours to struggle against and, if it is Thy will, may we rule them out of our lives.

In all our thoughts and plans for the future, we pray Thee to help us find the true values of life, to see the beauty and the strength in the plain and humble lives about us. Help us to appreciate their simple joys, their modest lives, lived in faith and hope, with hearts filled with peace and understanding; and as we pass on, may it be our challenge to bring more understanding and sympathy into our lives.

Be near to our loved ones, whose lives, so close to ours, feel the thrill and the pang of all our joys and failures. May we guard our actions well, keeping their days full of happiness and pride and free from the pain of disappointment and sorrow.

We pray for these things in our lives in the name of Thy Son, Our Lord and Saviour. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

OUR Father, we pray this night that Thou will renew our spirits and draw our hearts unto Thyself. Let us not serve Thee with the spirit of bondage, as slaves, but with the cheerfulness and gladness of little children, delighting ourselves in Thee and rejoicing in Thy work. Take from us all doubt and mistrust. Make us strong enough to bear the vision of Truth, and to have done with all falsehood, pretense and hypocrisy, so that we may see things as they are and fear no more.

May the coming vacation be days of rest and happiness. Help us not to be selfish in our pleasures, Our Father. Help us to share with our loved ones and to show them even in small ways our gratitude and love. Bring us closer in mind and heart and spirit to them and to Thee.

We thank Thee, Our Father, for those who pray that we may be true to the best that is within us. Grant us Thy power, that their prayers may be answered in our lives. Help us to look to Thee daily for the strength we need to lift our thoughts, to direct our acts, to broaden our minds, and to enlarge our sympathy and understanding.

Be with us all this night, Our Father, and may we have the grace of gratitude and the desire to dedicate ourselves to Thee. We ask it in His name. Amen.

A. Peirce Saunders

At the Opening of the School Year—1922

WE come together tonight, our Father, with hearts full of thankfulness for all Thy abundant mercies. We thank Thee for all the joys of vacation, the long restful days, the life in the open air, and all the store of pleasant memories which will long abide with us.

And now, as we gather together at the opening of a new term and year, may our hearts be filled with high resolves and noble purposes. Strengthen the resolutions which we have all made, and help us to be faithful in our work, clean and loyal in our lives, honest and helpful one towards the other. May we not be so absorbed in our own affairs, our troubles and perplexities, that we can find no time to think of others who need us and whom we can help. Fill our hearts with sympathy, make us thoughtful and kind and keep us from growing weary in well doing. Help us to be charitable in our judgment of others, stern critics of ourselves.

Bless all of the old fellows, especially those who are for the first time tasting the freedom of College life. Give them clearness of vision to see the right and strength of purpose to do it. Bless all of our friends. Keep them in health and strength and grant unto us, one and all, in this world knowledge of Thy truth and, in the world to come, life everlasting. In the dear name of Christ we ask it. Amen.

ALFRED G. ROLFE

GOD, Our Heavenly Father:

Although youth is the time of action rather than thought, of pleasure rather than work, of impulse rather than judgment, yet we rejoice that it is the time also of hope, of dreams, of ideals, of chivalry and devotion. At times we realize that we are Thy children, divine as Thou art divine, with power to do, to be, to become. In our best moments we feel the responsibility for making our own lives straight and true, fine and noble, effective for good; also we feel a call to the great work that Christ came to do; to help others to a true life, to seek and to save that which is "out of the way." Help us to realize Thy plan for our lives; that we are to come to our fullest manhood and development by forgetting self and being about our Father's business, thinking, planning, working, that Thy divine love and law may be known, accepted, and followed by all men.

We thank Thee for all old Hill boys, who have gone out filled with the spirit of service, and for all they have been able to accomplish by Thy blessing. Grant that here there shall be an influence that shall lead away from the thought of self and of personal gain and achievement, and into the conception of a great and glorious work to be done; a work which Christ thought of as His Father's business, and which Paul interprets to mean being "all things to all men, that he might save some," a work which demands our utmost powers and brings the finest and richest rewards that can come into human life.

Bless all youth everywhere and those who are its guides and councillors. Give, we pray Thee, such consecration and inspiration, such nobility of effort, such zeal, that the forces of evil shall be effectually routed,

and a new era of peace and righteousness and good will shall dawn for all nations and peoples.

To this end bless the Pan-American Conference. Restrain personal and national ambition, and may all work with such hearty good will that there may be lasting peace on this western hemisphere: a peace so wisely planned that it may soon spread over all the earth. For Christ's sake. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

OUR God and gracious Father: accept the thanks of our hearts for those blessings which seem to us to have come nearest to ourselves; the love and service of parents, the understanding of friends, the sympathy of brother and sister, the instruction of teachers, the inspiration of preaching and poetry, the stirring of books, the delight of beauty and of music, the glory of light, the refreshment of rest, the nourishing of food, the fragrance of flowers, the grandeur of mountain and the majesty of the sea, the song of birds and of brooks, the "wonderful clear nights of stars," the color of field and forest, the strength of the day and the soothing of the night. We bless Thee for work and laughter, for eagerness and ambition, for thought and memory, for hope and faith, for consolation and insight, for quietness of heart and courage of spirit, for opportunities of service and sympathy; for the trust and the confidence, the promise and the progress of youth; and for all Thy great goodness, Lord, we praise Thee. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

O Thou who knowest the problems that beset every soul, and the secret difficulties of every heart; hear us as we come to Thee with our trials and our troubles, and help us. Give us strength of conviction to meet the lurking doubt; give us strength of purpose to assail the open foe; give us patience to meet trials, long continued; give us sympathy to meet our brother's sorrows; give us a universal charity that shall bind us to all men everywhere and see in diversity of race and color the universal brotherhood in Christ Jesus. Thou speakest to us, O God, in many ways and from many sources; sometimes the parable in which Thou speakest is unintelligible to us; touch our ears that we may hear and our eyes that we may see; and so may it never be true of us that, having not, even that which we have be taken away from us. Grant us an abundance of Thy grace, an overflowing measure of Thy truth; and enable us, by Thy gentle compulsion and Thy stern tenderness, to live in accordance with all Thou dost vouchsafe to us of grace and truth and heavenly light. Upon all the nations of earth look down with Thy loving pity; upon men and women and children everywhere, taxed beyond their endurance and made hopeless in the bitterness of their misery, do Thou look with compassion; and in the sense of Thy nearness, all other help failing, grant them rest and hope and light.

Those whom we love be Thou near; those who have been boys in this school follow through their days and years of manhood; and grant us all together a final rest in Thee, whom to know aright is life eternal. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

OUR dear Heavenly Father; we come to Thee this evening as children to an earthly father to lay before Thee the record of the day and to ask Thy blessing upon it. Thou knowest the failures of the day, the word spoken in anger, the half-done task. Wilt Thou help us to do better on the morrow, to be more helpful to our fellows, to be more courageous against evil, more true to our better selves.

We would thank Thee for all the blessings we receive so richly at Thy hands, for life, for health, for home, for friends, for all the joys of living and for work well done.

Wilt Thou also bless our school, Our Father; may both Masters and Boys be given the wisdom to know the right and the courage to do it.

We thank Thee for our Country, O Lord, for its splendid past, and for the rich promise of its future. Lead us in the path of usefulness and peace. And we would include in our prayers all the nations of the world, Our Father. May war and strife cease and fellowship and peace prevail.

This with a prayer for the old fellows, we would ask in the name and for the sake of Thy dear Son, Our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

The day which is drawing to a close has been a momentous one in the lives of all of us. To some it has announced successes, which have been won as the results of hard, consistent efforts and faithfully performed tasks. We give thanks to Thee in our great happiness. To others the day has brought sharp disappointments and perhaps severe tests of character. We realize now that lack of industry at proper times, procrastination in daily work, and no real definite purpose in our school life have been the causes of our failures. So at this time we need a friend who can give us help, and we turn to Thee, our Father, for Thou hast said "Ask whatsoever ye will in My name and it shall be given unto you." Therefore we pray tonight that Thou wilt give us the power to take our defeat like men and be strong in the face of adversity. Help us to run with patience the race which now lies before us and may we run it with the determination to rectify the failures of the past by good concentrated efforts in the future. For additional strength we shall need, our Father, we look to Thee. This is our prayer tonight and we ask it with the forgiveness of our many sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

Founder's-Armistic Day

O Lord our God, Father of all mankind, hear our prayer as we meet in this place consecrated to the memory of our boys, those who went out to battle and came not back, those who laid down their arms on the day we now celebrate and serve The Hill in the common walks of life. With our souls have we desired Thee in the night of sorrow, in the desolation of war. Now in security, when the desolations of war have become a memory, again we seek Thy favor and invoke Thy blessing. Grant that out of the pain of loss and black disaster suffered not long since the world may more and more turn to Thee and learn to know Thee as a loving Father, pitying His children.

Bless us as we do reverence to all who went forth at their nation's need, to cross perilous seas, to meet strange forms of death and terror beneath alien skies. Give us their courage, and faith to look with fearless eyes beyond the tragedy of that great strife, to greet the dawn of the day when wars shall cease. Grant Thy comfort to all who mourn today throughout the world for dear ones who died for love of country. We pray Thee that the sacrifice of the dead and the tears of the living may not have been in vain; that out of the strong lives of heroes, and out of their chivalrous deaths, there may come to the living a fresh access of courage and chivalry and gentleness and virtue.

For the noble thoughts inspired by this day and by this human temple in which we worship, set up as an altar to lives baptized in suffering and sanctified by sacrifice; for the undying influence and the radiant memory of The Master of The Hill who lingers forever in the hearts of all his boys, we humbly thank Thee. Touch

our hearts now and evermore with the flaming zeal of crusaders like him and like those boys who left their quiet life on this campus to fight and suffer and die in far places, crusaders who loosed the shining sword to fight not for a sepulchre but for the living Lord.

Keep us in all our ways. Bless all nations, all men who dream and strive for the time when human kind shall not hurt or destroy in all Thy holy mountain. And at last, when our work is done and our battles fought, bring us home in honor to Thee. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR Father in Heaven; help us to seek Thy law with seeing eyes and searching minds, and as the term draws to its close, aid us in husbanding our strength for the conquest of the tasks that lie before us. Grant us the faith to know that Thou knowest, and help us so to order our lives that the work which we do may be in accordance with the teachings of Thy Word. Amen.

CHARLES L. SWIFT

DEAR Lord, we ask Thee graciously to forgive all that Thou hast seen amiss in our lives this day. Help us to put conscience and heart into our daily task. Forbid, we pray Thee, that any of us should be careless or indifferent to the precious opportunities that are ours here at School. Make our paths of duty and service clear to us. Quicken our faith and hope and strengthen all of our worthy purposes and desires that they may be a blessing to those about us. Help us to be patient in our trials and disappointments. Keep us, we pray Thee, pure in heart and clean in life. Guard our lips that they may not utter an unkind or thoughtless word, our hearts that we may think unselfish thoughts, our hands that we may be helpful to one another. May we not be led from the paths of simplicity and honor. Show each of us our duty and keep us faithful to it. This, Lord, is our prayer, for Christ's sake. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

O God, our Father, the Giver of every good and perfect gift; we thank Thee for the day's health and strength, for the day's work and play and for the gift of refreshing sleep. Guard us through the night and grant that we may enter into the duties and tasks of tomorrow with renewed strength and understanding.

Help us to try anew to be generous, sympathetic and loyal.

Bless our dear ones tonight in whose eyes we are ever wonderful and may we bring to them peace and comfort always. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

OUR Father, it is so easy for us to close our hearts against Thee. As we come before Thee in this evening service, help us to become conscious of Thy indwelling spirit. May we listen to Thy voice within our consciences. May we so control the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts that our hearts may open increasingly to Thy truth and to Thy power within us.

And give us also, we pray Thee, the strength we need to carry into action our good impulses and high resolves. May we become doers of Thy Word and not hearers only. Help us to live on the level of our best. Be with our loved ones this night and all those who need Thee. In His name, Amen.

A. Peirce Saunders

GOD, our Heavenly Father, help us to thank Thee for the mercies of this past term; for our freedom from sickness and contagion during the severity of the winter; for the increased efforts and fine scholastic success, and all the new confidence and hope inspired by this success; for all the opportunities, the enlarged knowledge, increased power; for every victory over temptation, every noble and helpful thought and word and deed.

We dare not ask Thee to bless carelessness, indifference, neglect, and acts known to be wrong; but grant the awakening influence of Thy spirit to lead each in true sincerity to ask Thy forgiveness, confessing his errors and mistakes, and especially any act or word that may have led others into evil.

Encourage and hearten all who fail; may the failure but serve to give new energy, new intensity, new direction to future efforts, so that out of the failure may come enlarged success. May we use to the full the talents Thou hast given so that they may be increased to our upbuilding and Thy service.

We thank Thee for our community life with its opportunities for influence, for learning how to live together bravely, unselfishly, helpfully. Forbid that its work and care and failures should ever lower our standards, obscure our ideals, dull our sympathies, destroy our happiness, but may we know that "faithful toil is holy service" and is certain of Thy quick and rich reward. O God, that we might, like Christ, know what is in men, so that we might use our opportunities to the full for the upbuilding of character. Bless any in our midst who especially need Thy blessing. Care for our dear ones, be near to guide and inspire all the old fellows. For Christ's sake. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

AGAIN we come before Thee in this quiet evening hour to thank Thee for the blessings of the past and to ask Thee for strength and courage for the future. We thank Thee for the lives and example of the noble and devoted men and women and boys whom we have known here at The Hill. Their faces rise before us tonight as our thoughts go back over the years—faces of those who were better and purer than we, whose lives are at once a reproach and an inspiration to us. May they inspire us to greater effort and to nobler deeds.

Strengthen, we pray Thee, the resolves which we all have made in our better moods and help us to be faithful in our work, loyal in our lives, pure, honest and helpful.

May we not be so absorbed in our own concerns, our troubles and perplexities as to have no thought of others who need us and whom we can help. Fill our hearts with sympathy and keep us from growing weary in well doing.

Bless all the old fellows of The Hill, wherever they are. Help them to keep the faith and give them clearness of vision to see the right and strength of purpose to do it.

In Christ's name. Amen.

ALFRED G. ROLFE

O God, give us strength in all things to work the works meet for repentance. Give us unflinching courage that is necessary to look within our own souls, to discover and to realize our own weaknesses and shortcomings. Help us not to condone them, nor to make vain excuses. Help us manfully to acknowledge them; and then, O God, give us the grace and strength to correct them. Help us through a godly sorrow to work our repentance unto salvation, a sorrow that bringeth no regret. And then may we be able to say to ourselves as Paul said of himself: "We wronged no man; we corrupted no man; we took advantage of no man"; for we are, indeed, our brothers' keepers and we must live up to our obligations. How little we realize here at school, O God, how much our lives influence the lives of others; and how stern is the duty imposed upon us that we should keep ourselves clean that we may not hurt the life of another; that we should keep ourselves from stumbling that we may not cause another to fall; that we should keep ourselves in the strait way that leadeth to life everlasting, that we may not cause another to turn aside and lose his way. Give us every attribute of manliness; courage in defeat, a forward and upward look in times of disappointment, an unflagging zeal when we are tempted to slacken our effort, and always nobility of purpose and a desire to serve. May the example of our Lord Jesus Christ always be before us, and may love for Him and trust in Him lead us forward to better accomplishment. In Christ's name.

Amen.

Howard Bement

DEAR Heavenly Father, as we take our places in Thy house and turn our thoughts to Thee, may we think of Thee, not as the ruler of the universe whose home is in the heavens; but as our best friend, "nearer than breathing, closer than hands and feet," of infinite patience with our shortcomings and ready to come to our aid with all Thy power if we will only ask Thee. Help us, O Lord, to open our eyes to Thy truth, to surrender our lives to Thy guidance. to seek the hard way, the difficult task, realizing that in Thy strength we may overcome our weakness and go forward each day to higher and nobler standards of effort.

We thank Thee, our Father, for all Thy manifold and great mercies shown to us, for countless opportunities for growth and service, for loving parents, for kind friends, for youth and courage and vision.

Bless with us all who are dear to us and be especially near to those in sickness, discouragement and peril. This with the forgiveness of our sins we ask in the name of Christ. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

As we have sung praises to Thee tonight and have listened to the reading of Thy Holy Word, the desire comes to us to live better Christian lives. Most of us are either living lives that are on the average plane, doing what everybody else does, drifting with the current, or else we are following ideals which do not clash with the social life about us. We find that the drag of ordinary standards is down, whenever we endeavor to live above the average level. So we realize that we need Thy divine assistance. Give us the power and the moral courage to stand against debasing and vulgar standards, regardless of the misunderstandings and the criticism. Help us in a wise, persistent and fearless manner to ally ourselves with those things which in our own consciences we know to be pure and honorable and of good report. This prayer we humbly ask with the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

O Lord, Our God, Father of all mankind, who art a strong tower of defence to all who fly to Thee, whose mercies cannot be numbered; hear us as we pray to Thee. Grant that we may hear Thy voice speaking to us in this evening hour, and still the voices of the world which call us away from Thee.

We would learn to praise Thee by doing Thy will in simple trust each day. Save us from the doubts that keep us idle and make us ineffectual. Help us to do here in School the best we know, trusting Thee for all the way ahead which we cannot see. We bring Thee no splendid gifts, but only our weaknesses and striving, our joys and sorrows, our failings and aspirations, and all the human burdens of our hearts, seeking Thy boundless strength and infinite compassion, that we may find courage to do our work and joy to light our path.

Give us we beseech Thee, such visions of the future, such glimpses of the men we may be, that we shall build, on firm foundation, with ceaseless care, the structure of our lives. Teach us the true meaning and the beauty of every act of justice and every word of mercy we can do and say in the common light of our daily life. Help us to lift our eyes to the light on the far horizons, and thus to renew our courage and our faith. Keep us from compromise and things half-done, from neglect of duty, from building on the sand of dishonesty and deceit.

Enter into our hearts and abide with us as the evening comes and the day's work draws to an end. Set us free from evil passions, heal our hearts of all vain desires, and make us worthy to love Thee as we ought, courageous to suffer, and strong to endure, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR Father in Heaven; as we gather here to commune with Thee, grant that our thoughts and acts may be adjusted to Thy teachings. Help us to cast out what is low and to seek that which is high and clear and clean. May our minds be free from secret faults, and may we in the classroom and on the campus strive to think and say and do only those things which in Thy sight are acceptable. **Amen.**

CHARLES L. SWIFT

WE thank Thee, our Father, for this day and all that it has meant to us. Forgive, we pray Thee, our shortcomings and our failures and instil in each one of us that sensitive conscience which leads to right decisions. Help us to face the coming day with new courage and new visions, for as our day is so shall our strength be. We ask Thee to guard our interests in life. Fill our hearts with expectation and flood our faces with morning light. This we ask, with a prayer for Thy blessing on all of the old boys of The Hill, in the name of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

OUR Heavenly Father, the strength of all those who put their trust in Thee; mercifully accept our prayers, granting to us a renewed power to overcome our faults and a renewed spirit of good will towards all. May we face the new day with courage and gaiety and the quiet mind that comes from faith in Thy Word and in the love of Thy Son, Jesus Christ. Finally help us so to live our lives that they will bring peace, honor and happiness to those who love us. These things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

GOD, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for Thy Word, which is indeed "a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path" and which contains the only true way of life, the only safe guide amidst the temptations all about us. We thank Thee for those who have been inspired by its ideals, encouraged by its promises, comforted by its messages of hope, and strengthened by its examples of the weak made strong through faith. We thank Thee for those who have followed its precepts, have learned to walk in Thy ways, and have given their lives to Thee in service of their fellows. We thank Thee that its truth has so permeated the common thought, has been so generally accepted as true, has so influenced public opinion and the making of laws, that many acknowledge its sway and bow to its commands who have never accepted Thee or professed to be Thy followers.

Help us to prize its precepts as the very best principles of life, far transcending any rules, any code of honor made by man. Help us also first to put the accent where Paul puts it, to understand that the very heart of the Christian ideal is personal submission to Jesus Christ and His gospel. If we perform our reasonable service by "presenting our bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto Thee," then Thy Holy Spirit will be our teacher and guide. He will take of the things of the spirit and show them unto us, interpreting unto us what we should do. Then also we shall have power to be, to do, to become as Christ promised His followers just before He ascended.

Speak the word that shall open each heart to Thy truth, that shall lead to a complete surrender to Thee and to Thy influence in the life. Then shall there be Life indeed, a new spirit, a new power, a new ideal of service.

Bless our country, strengthen every good influence, cast down selfishness and greed, overthrow political corruption, and may we be a people whose God is the Lord. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

WE thank Thee tonight, our Father, for the day which is just closing and for all the opportunities which it has brought to us—opportunities to be square and honest in our work and play, clean and helpful in our lives.

We thank Thee for our bodies with all their wonderful powers. May we never forget that they are the temples of Thy Holy Spirit and that it is our high privilege and stern duty to keep them clean and make them strong, fit dwelling places for the spirit of the Living God.

We thank Thee for our mental powers. To some Thou hast given ten talents; to some, five; to some, one. Help us faithfully to use the gifts which Thou hast given us that we may return them with interest and hear Thy welcome "Well done."

We thank Thee for our souls, the divine fire which illumines mind and body alike. May we keep the flame alive and clear, obscured by the shadow neither of sin nor of unbelief.

And so, dear Lord, may body, mind, and spirit all unite in Thy praise. In Christ's dear name we ask it.

Amen.

ALFRED G. ROLFE

THOU makest darkness and it is night, yet the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee. Make us children of the light. Help us to escape the condemnation that light is come into the world and yet men love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil. Make us lovers of the light, to keep our lives in the open, knowing that nothing is hid from Thee. Illumine us with truth; may we so look unto Him that we shall be radiant. Give us eyes to see the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ, who hath brought life and immortality out into the light, who is the lamp of the eternal city. Teach us out of Thy word, a lamp to our feet, a guide to our path. Bring us all home at last, away from the outer darkness and let us see Thy face. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

WE come before Thee as a school, O God, old boys and new boys, united in a common purpose, swayed by a common desire; to write a fair word on the white page of this new school year. We want the record, when it shall be finished next June, to be one of which we need not to be ashamed. May that desire be so strong in us at this moment that we shall be inspired and uplifted with a strong and lasting emotion—a love of goodness and a passion for truth. We can succeed in the high, common undertakings of this school year only as we learn to love Thee, masters and boys alike, with all our souls and with all our hearts and with all our minds; and may we all learn, this year, to love our neighbor as ourself. So may we draw near to the kingdom of God and make of this hilltop a place that shall be, in all verity, a place close to heaven. Help us to build up this kingdom of heaven, both within and about us, by loving and unselfish service; by honest work, faithful devotion to duty, sturdy self-reliance, and dependence upon Thee. Give us, for the new year, vision, purpose, ideals; and may no one of us remit, as the days and the weeks go on, nor abate in any measure, the standards we have set for ourselves; and may we not lack in generosity when it comes to our judgment of others. So may this place become this year even more than ever in the past, a mount of God, a city that is set on a hill, whose light cannot be hid, but which shineth more and more toward the perfect day. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

WE come into Thy House with thankful hearts, O Lord, to ask forgiveness for our sins and to seek Thy continued favor. We would thank Thee, our Father, for the countless blessings which daily we enjoy; for pleasant homes, for kind friends, for the joys of companionship and clean sport. We thank Thee for the challenge of hard tasks, for the lessons of defeat and for the fruits of victory.

We thank Thee for our school, O Lord, for its rich traditions of honor and service, for the noble army of men and boys who have served Thee here; who have fought the good fight; who have kept the faith and for whom the crown of victory is laid up.

As we look into our own hearts, our Father, we realize how weak we are. When we would do good, evil is present with us. May we learn to look to Thee for help in all our difficulties. May we trust Thee for guidance. Wilt Thou strengthen our resolution and give us wisdom in all our undertakings. Give us this night the gift of refreshing sleep and may we greet the tasks of the new day with fresh resolutions. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

THOU knowest the things for which we need to pray, our Father, yet we would make ourselves more conscious of them by openly asking Thy forgiveness. If we have acted hastily today, said unworthy things, or harbored disintegrating thoughts, we pray Thee for the necessary strength to mend our ways on the coming morrow. Grant that only such things as are honest, faithful and acceptable in Thy sight may find lodging places in our lives here at School.

As we ask for strength for ourselves, so would we be mindful of the needs of others. Especially do we pray that Thou wilt be near to any who are sick either in body or in mind. Be also with any who may be disappointed or downcast. Be with our loved ones at home and may their prayers in our behalf be answered by our more faithful and loyal lives here at school. This prayer we ask with the forgiveness of our many sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

WE come into Thy house, O Lord, and into Thy presence once more, as a School, to offer our thanks for Thy mercies, to consecrate ourselves again to Thy service, and seek anew the wisdom and courage we need from Thee. Bless us with a sense of Thy real presence here, and come into every heart as we wait before Thee.

Help us now to devote ourselves, our minds, our bodies, our spirits, to Thee. Give us something of Thy divine vision and tenderness and sympathy, that we may be quick to see and eager to help any who need us in our busy days at School. Grant that we may build honestly, day by day, into our lives and into the very walls of this School the living rock of faith and virtue, knowledge and power and truth which will abide far down the years, when future generations of Hill boys kneel here and our names and deeds are distant memories.

Be very near to all who especially need Thy comforting presence this night. Give new strength of purpose and fresh hope to all who are discouraged or sick at heart with longing for familiar scenes and faces. Teach them to be at home here and everywhere because Thou art with them. Keep us all from sin and dishonor and wrong which alone can truly separate us from our homes and from Thee.

Guide us through the brief days of this life until we come to the end of the course and turn back at last to Thee, in whom alone we shall find rest and an abiding place. This we ask, with a blessing on all whom we love, and all Thy children everywhere, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR Father in Heaven; at this quiet hour when the shadows are lengthening, help us to know what joy and peace come from seeking the secret places of the Most High. And as we pass out from this sheltered retreat of friendship and learning, grant that we may take with us high and helpful ideals that will aid us in combatting the forces of evil that beset us. May we learn to look upon Thee as our shield and buckler, our strong defender. Amen.

CHARLES L. SWIFT

DEAR Lord, we ask Thee tonight for faith—faith which helps us to remove the difficulties which we face every day and hour of our lives here at School. Forgive, we pray Thee, the sins of this day. Pardon the thoughts and purposes of mind and heart which have not been right in Thy sight. We know our weaknesses, our shortness of vision, our imperfect judgment and our feeble efforts. We ask for Thy guidance in the perplexities of our school tasks, strength where there is weakness and inspiration where there is disappointment. Open our eyes and minds that we may see every opportunity for any service which will redound to the good of our School. Keep us true to the high hopes which those whom we love at home hold for us in our life and work at The Hill. Strengthen us for the morrow. Give us courage to face its duties and responsibilities and wilt Thou overrule whatever mistakes we make. This we ask, in the name of our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

O God we thank Thee for the refreshment of vacation and for the vigor of a new term. As we set our faces once more towards our daily work we realize the need of a greater source of power than our own to help us put into our work all that we have to give. And so, our Father, we ask Thee to teach us how to pray, how to get in touch with Thy Spirit who is the source of all energy, all inspiration, all love. Teach us how to make the most out of these few minutes with Thee so that we may come more readily and freely for comfort and strength. Give us to know that when we come from Thy presence with a lighter heart, a clearer conception of our duty, our prayer has already been answered.

As each day brings its round of irritating problems and absorbing duties teach us to face them manfully, to perform with gay hearts and smiling faces. In our daily life with each other when we may feel "heavily laden and oppressed" may it be our challenge, as the hardest thing we can find to do, to be cheery and to be friendly. Bless our loved ones, in whose eyes we are ever all that is fine and good. Guard them from all danger and unhappiness and give us Thy light and power to bring to them increasing peace and comfort. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

GOD, our Heavenly Father, Thou hast made us Thy children, divine as Thou art divine. We can come to our true selves, attain strength of character, do our best work, gain in real joy only when we find Thee. All about us are the evidences of Thy love, the proofs of Thy care. Within us is Thine own nature, which cannot be satisfied except by fellowship and co-operation with Thee.

We can leave Thy side, if we will to do so; can shut our hearts against Thy influence; can follow our desires, which promise immediate pleasure. We can spend our inherited strength and possibilities of body, mind and spirit in careless living far away from Thee; but we cannot flee from the facts of life, from our responsibilities as men and as sons of God; we cannot escape from the divine part of our nature. We must eventually come to ourselves, realize our folly, feel keenly our wretchedness, must come back to our Father, to ask Thy forgiveness, and beseech a new chance to make good.

Save us from the experience of the prodigal. Help us now to rejoice in our inheritance as Thy children, accept Thy Word, walk in Thy ways, enter into Thy service, look to Thee for the direction of our lives.

Stay the course of evil, we pray, strengthen every influence for good, especially bless every effort to keep youth from sin and to build it up in true strength.

Be with all in our midst who especially need Thee, all who are bearing burdens which others may not know. Be with all our dear ones and all the old fellows. For Christ's sake. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

WE thank Thee, our Father, for the benefits and opportunities that are ours through the generosity of others. Guard us against thinking of success as a gift or a good fortune, rather than an achievement won by character, culture and service, and help us here to learn to do the honest work of true men. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

MAY we come into Thy house of prayer, O God, mindful of our privilege and determined to make the most of it. Make quiet and reverent our hearts in Thy holy presence; banish all thoughts of the outside world and of the ambitions that daily control us; make us to merge our wills in Thine, and make us ambitious to be worthy of being called Thy children and of speaking to Thee as a child speaks, in trust and confidence, with his father. If we are to gain high ideals for our school days and for all our lives, we must gain them in this quiet place; if we are to learn what it means to be fellow-workers with God, we must learn that high privilege here; if we are to learn what it means to be wise master-builders of life and character, we must learn here by listening with open and receptive hearts to Thy holy word, and speaking with Thee in the quiet intimacy of prayer. Touch, O God, with the coal from off Thy high altar these lips of ours that they may speak clean words; and with Thy living and vital spirit, touch our stubborn hearts that they may be clear fountains of right purposes and high aspirings. Make us supremely conscious of our great privilege in being here at all; of having the opportunities that are daily presented to us of living and learning among surroundings that may, if we will, impel us so strongly toward the good. Make us humble in the midst of our many blessings; make us strong in our effort to utilize these for our own good and for the good of a needy world that we are strongly called upon to serve. Grant us growth, O God, in Christlike purpose and character, so that what we do here shall be but a beginning, to increase with the years even unto old age; that, when our days are many, and our life declines gently toward its end, we may feel that we have lived without shame and that we can die without fear. So may all the years before us be a crown of blessing to us;

and may we always be able to think back to these hours in the school chapel as times to be blessed in the memory of them.

We thank Thee for those who have sat in these seats before us, and have gone out into life's battle to fight a good fight. Bless those old boys of the school, and make us to leave their heritage to us unsullied for those who shall follow after us in the years to come. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

DEAR Heavenly Father, help us to pray aright, to ask for the things we need, not for greater success or for easier tasks but for more strength and determination, for a larger sympathy and for a greater charity. Make us mindful of our own shortcomings rather than of the weakness of our fellows. Wilt Thou help us to cast out of our hearts pride and intolerance and to cherish humility and brotherly kindness.

We thank Thee, our Father, for all the successes of the term so soon to close, for good fellowship, for devotion to duty, for the glimpses of the truth, for all the opportunities of usefulness; and as we leave for our homes, may we rejoice in the memory of responsibilities well met and of work well done. Guard us from carelessness and thoughtlessness and evil and bring us back with grateful hearts intent on reaching still higher levels of duty and service.

Bless with us, our Father, our friends and those whom we love. May we appreciate the unselfish love which prompts their interest in us and may we strive to realize in our lives their high hopes for us. This with the forgiveness of our sins and a prayer for the old fellows, we ask in Christ's name. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

We come into Thy presence while performing duties in the hardest week thus far of our school year. We all started out with the intention to do our best, but some of us have already met with adversity. Perhaps now we realize more than ever before what a testing of character adversity is. It either embitters us, leaving us resentful, discouraged, cynical; or else it ennobles us, leaving us humbler, kinder, and with a deeper spiritual insight and a finer trust in God. During these trying days help us to build upon the rock and not upon the sand. Make us realize that after all spiritual success constitutes most of the up-building of our character. Be with us we pray Thee during all these days. In Christ's dear name we offer our prayer. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

MOST merciful God, who art ever more ready to hear than we are to pray to Thee; hear us we beseech Thee as we gather here to ask Thy blessing in this evening hour.

We thank Thee tonight for all the common, unnoticed gifts of our daily life; for the beauty of earth and sky, for the radiant mornings, the clear sunshine of the noontide, and the glory of sunset and evening star. We thank Thee for the kindliness of our friends, the helpfulness of our companions here in School, the happy associations formed here at The Hill in these glorious days of youth. Give us grace to show our gratitude to Thee by helping each other when it is hard to forget ourselves and to think of those who need us. Give us grace to show our gratitude to Thee by helping each other when it is hard to forget ourselves and to think of those who need us. Give us grace to show our gratitude to Thee by showing forth in our lives Thy Spirit, in all we say, in all we do. Grant that our thoughts may ascend more often to Thee and to Thy Son, our Saviour.

We bless Thee especially at this time for all the great cloud of witnesses with whom we are compassed about in this place of noble traditions, for the blessed and beautiful memories of the men and women who toiled and suffered and wrought and endured to make this a fine School. We thank Thee for all the mystic chords of memory that stretch from every heart to the battlefields of our national history, for the heroes in whose honor men everywhere will make pilgrimages to the cemeteries of the nation tomorrow, for all the saints and martyrs and faithful followers of Jesus Christ who have made the world better for us. Grant that the thought of them may inspire us to nobler thinking and

nobler living, so that we too may make our School and our country the better for having lived.

Be with all our loved ones and all the old fellows this night; guide and save us and them, and at last make us all one in Thee, whom to know is life everlasting. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

Columbus Day

OUR Father in Heaven; at the conclusion of this day which is significant in our Country's history, help us to learn a lesson from the adventurer, to acquire more of the spirit of daring towards things that are right. Aid us to reflect on the greatness of this, our Country, and on the achievements that made it great. Grant that our labors here in this great School may prove to be the foundation of loyal daring; that they may consist in the overcomng of difficulties; that they may be the beginning of that right thinking and true reasoning which ultimately help to make a Nation great. These things we ask in Thy name. Amen.

CHARLES L. SWIFT

WE thank Thee, our Father, for Thy watchful care which has brought us through this day with its obligations, its labors, delights and trials. May the light of Thy countenance shine upon us this night and burn out all that is mean and unworthy, and instil that which is gracious and true. Help us so to live that our work may reflect our appreciation of the opportunities which life affords us. Thou hast given and received our yesterdays and todays, and dost know what our tomorrows hold for us. Help us to fortify our high resolves to do well the tasks which are set before us here day by day. Impart to our hearts the belief that there is a way to accomplish all things if we have the determination to find the way; and we pray, our Father, that Thy way may be always our way. Bless all of us as we prepare for another day and may we, from our hearts, utter the prayer which our Lord and Master, Jesus Christ, taught us. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

O GOD, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the beauty of the evening, for the solemn stillness that follows after the noises of the day, and for the peace and quiet of this, Thy house. We know that, no matter how harassed and discouraged we are, here bending in reverence to Thee comes new heart and new faith to carry on. We thank Thee, Our Father, for this power of prayer that brings us into touch with Thy Spirit who is the source of all inspiration and love.

We pray that in the tasks of the morrow we may increase our efforts to rise above our discouragements, that we may withstand even greater tests and so, day by day, grow in strength towards the fulfillment of a more useful, more friendly and more loyal life.

Bless those dear ones at home in whose eyes we are ever precious. Guard them from all danger and give us, O God, through Thy light and power the means of bringing to them peace and comfort and love.

We ask it in the name of Him who revealed to us the abundant life as Thy Will, in the name of Jesus, our Lord and Master. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

After Alumni Day

GOD, our Heavenly Father; we desire to lift up our hearts to Thee, to make known our desires, to seek Thy forgiveness, to wait upon Thee. May our strength be renewed, our lives purified and cleansed, our desires and ambitions lifted from self to service. Hear this spoken prayer and with it hear and answer the truest and deepest longings of each heart.

We thank Thee for the coming of the old fellows, for their hearty enthusiasm, for their gratitude and praise for what was done for them here. Make us worthy of it all. Bless the Trustees, the Head Master, the Faculty, and every boy in the School. Working together under Thy control may an atmosphere be created here in which boys shall be transformed into men—upstanding men, vigorous, healthy, courageous; alert in mind and nerve, and animated by a real desire to go forth as champions of all that is best. Everywhere such men are needed. Help this School to do more than its full share to meet this need.

We pray Thee for China. Thou choosest the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty. Guide this wonderful awakening of mind and spirit. May it be that China shall indeed enter into the very heart of Christ, understand his teachings, and be enabled to show us how to live the truth; how to cast off the encumbrances of dogma and doctrine, of burdening methods and systems, and to return to the simplicity, the purity, the heart of the religion of Jesus.

In our busy life, each intent upon his own task, bearing his own burden, battling against his own difficulties; forgive us that we forget the needs of others.

As boys and masters are called home by the illness or death of dear ones, may we speak the thoughtful word of help and comfort, that means the assurance of human sympathy. We pray tonight for Mr. and Mrs. Ward in their sorrow through death. May they feel Thee near to uphold and comfort and strengthen. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

George Q. Sheppard

O Thou complete and perfect nature, whose creation includes both the valley and the mountain, both deepening dusk and brightening dawn, temper our hearts to strong mountain wind and soft valley breezes, to mystery and to insight. Teach us to feel the largeness of Thy plan and to trust the generosity of Thy judgment. Help us to realize how Thou dost gather us all up into Thy purposes and may all our petty possessions of mind and heart be invested in Thy vast enterprises. Engage us in Thy service, so wide-reaching, so beneficent, and widen the outflowing of our life streams. Lead us through shadow and brightness into the full light of Thy truth and quiet our hearts with confidence and constancy. May the exalted and the lowly, the exceptional and the common, yield us their own true value and rebuke us for despising small and common things. May the blessings we so constantly receive lose no value by their usualness, but light and air, sight of eye, hearing of ear, the beauty of grass, and the comfort of darkness, all be tokens of Thy goodness. Amen.

Boyd Edwards

O Thou God of love and power, who in old times didst choose a nation to be Thy peculiar people; make us worthy in these later days to be chosen as the humble instruments of Thy cleansing power. Arm us with righteousness; equip us with justice; ennoble us with the spirit of true consecration; and purge us with the cleansing fires of hatred for greed and lust and conquest. May we despise all the weaknesses that have harried us in the past—our sin, our sloth, our love of ease; and may we become strong in truth and liberty and justice because the God of Truth is our God and the God of Love is our Father. Consecrate Thy people, O God, in these difficult days of readjustment; forgive our manifold transgressions of the past, and challenge forth to service the best that has ever been in us. Dedicate this nation to the great cause of lasting peace that has been so hard won, and make it a nation worthy to enforce upon errant peoples who deny truth and justice the stern decree of right living. May we, in very truth, be redeemed ourselves with justice, and established with righteousness; and may wisdom and knowledge be the strength and stability of our time.

And, O God, here in this school, enable us to see that the land we love is what we make it; no more righteous or wise or pure than are we as individuals. In high patriotic endeavor may it be ours to strive for personal mastery over evil; to desire eagerly the highest; to labor incessantly as duty calls us in all the daily tasks that test us and make us strong. Abundantly bless this school of which we are a part: and may it send forth strong and virile men in these days that call loudly for manhood. Go with all the old fellows of the school in college and in the world. Grip them with a sense of Thy purpose for them, and do not let them go, O loving Father, to whom in the name of Jesus is all the glory and honor. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

OUR Dear Heavenly Father, again we pause a moment from the work and hurry of the day to turn our thoughts to Thee. We realize our dependence upon Thee, that all we have we owe to Thee. May we appreciate what it means that, without any effort on our part, we are permitted to live in this present age, in this most favored land, surrounded by all the advantages of freedom, wealth and scientific knowledge. May we see clearly the responsibility which goes with all Thy gifts to us. Help us to train ourselves so to use these, Thy gifts, that we may make ourselves happy and useful, and the world a better place to live in. Give us the courage to attempt the hard task, the thoughtful act, the unselfish service. Create in us a burning desire to achieve "whatsoever things are true."

And we would not pray for ourselves alone, O God, we would ask Thy richest blessing upon this school, upon our country and upon our homes. May we realize that in each one of these relations we have a very real part to play; that there are those who have the right to expect us to quit ourselves like men and to be strong. May their faith in us never be disappointed.

This with a prayer for all the old fellows, we would ask in the name of Thy Son. Amen.

GEORGE D. ROBINS

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

Help us to look into our hearts tonight as we approach the end of another school year. Do we see in them the fulfillment of those early purposes and plans for our work? Do we find ourselves representing something more than just ourselves in the life of this school? Is our character of such a type that it makes us of special human interest in the minds of our acquaintances? If we are unable to feel positive replies to any of these questionings, help us right now to decide to make the few remaining weeks of this term the best ones of the year for ourselves, the school and for Thee. May we dig up the talents which we have allowed to lie hidden in the soil of opportunity and cause them to earn other talents in great abundance. With full hearts we thank Thee for Thy great care over us, our Father, and pray for Thy forgiveness. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

SHOW us Thy mercy, O Lord, and grant us Thy salvation, for Thou art good, and ready to forgive, and plenteous in mercy unto all them that call upon Thee.

As we bow before Thee this night, humbly confessing our sins, we beseech Thee, O God, to help us so to control our thoughts that our tongues may be kept from evil and our minds from impurity. Grant each one of us here in School strength of purpose and a vision of Thy plans for us so that we may be better and more true and more like Thy Son, our Saviour, in word and thought and deed.

We thank Thee for the noble traditions of this place, for the voices that still speak to us from the past, appealing to our better natures and urging us to depart from evil and to cleave to that which is good; for the memories of Hill boys and Hill men who lived and walked before Thee in gentleness and honor. Help us ever to be mindful of their example, and give us grace never to bring dishonor or shame to the name or memories or records of those who made this School great.

Keep us from all dishonesty, all forms of deceit, from betraying those who love us and believe in us, from sloth and indifference and work ill-done. Make us rather boys and men whom the School and all the world may honor and respect, and in whom our truest friends may rejoice.

Guard us and our loved ones through the coming night and through all the days and years to come; bless all the old fellows, and make us at last one in Thee. In Christ's dear name we pray. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

WE thank Thee, our Father, for the power which is ours to help and gladden the lives of one another here at School. Give us, we pray Thee, that spirit of understanding and co-operation which will contribute to the welfare of others. Help us with clear eye to see the truth. May we have the courage to see ourselves in the mirror of the opinion of our fellows and in the seeing may we have a spirit of true humility. Burn into our lives the deep lessons of patience, self-denial, helpfulness and sympathy, and in the practice of these lessons may we learn to give. Be with us in the tasks of tomorrow. May we be strong in Thy strength, courageous because of our faith in Thy promises and dependent upon Thee. Forgive our many sins this day. Help us to be faithful and true in thought, word and deed, and grant us grace in all things to do Thy will. Amen.

JAMES I. WENDELL

TAKE from us, our Father, all intolerance and hatred, all selfishness and vanity and help us to live with kindness, humbleness and simplicity. May we try more sincerely to be gentle, to be considerate, to be appreciative. On these lines, our Father, looking forward in confidence and hope, may we build our lives. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

GOD, our Heavenly Father; as we enter this week of Thanksgiving, reveal to us Thy goodness, give us thankful hearts, give us words of gratitude, and enable us to render to Thee true service in return for all Thy blessings.

We thank Thee that we live in this day of comforts and luxuries, this day of marvelous scientific and material advancement. We thank Thee that our lot is cast in this land of opportunity and abundance; that we have not been called upon to endure the loss, the suffering, the sorrow, the deprivations that have come to Europe through the war.

We thank Thee for the great advance in human knowledge, for the wonderful discoveries of science and the way they have put under man's control the mighty forces of nature, and for all the possibilities for good that this control may mean. We tremble when we think how terribly these forces were used during the war for man's destruction. Help the world to grasp the thought that man and his civilization must destroy war or war will destroy man and his civilization.

We thank Thee for our work, our play, our friends; for our minds and all the joys that come to us through increased knowledge, through the contact with the thoughts, the activities, the dreams, the hopes and fears of the great men of the past.

We thank Thee for nature teeming with life, filled with beauty, so vocal of Thy goodness towards all Thy creatures. Father, if we are dull of eye or ear or mind so that we do not appreciate these gifts of Thine; if our ignorance, or indifference, or self-centered interests keep us from our full inheritance as Thy children, help us,

we pray. Teach us the great lesson that the real things which determine our happiness are not material but spiritual. Give us the more abundant life that Christ came to reveal. For His sake. Amen.

George Q. Sheppard

O Thou Giver of life, who knowest the secret of the returning life of the fields, who hidest away in the safekeeping of the ground the vitality of tree and plant, who makest the goodly trees to pass through beauty unto rest, who guidest the shy birds through pathless skies to sheltering abodes, who fillest the streams that run among the valleys, and preservest the soil in fertility, who carriest the seed to its place of growth, and preparest for those who are to live the food they shall need, we thank and praise Thee for Thy providence. We are prospered because Thou failest not; we are rich by Thy bounty and without Thee our labor and our thoughts are vain. Behind the harvests we garner may we see Thy care; in all the fruits that are pleasant to us may we recognize Thy favor. Help us not to forget the Giver in our acceptance of the gift, never to lose the grace of gratitude, never to commit the sin of distrust, never to destroy Thy kindness by the misuse of Thy provision. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

O God, our Father, who dost renew Thy mercies with every new day and in the night dost draw near with Thy protecting presence, we thank Thee for every good and perfect gift which has flowed in on us afresh today. We thank Thee for health, and reason, and the strength to do our work; for the straitening of Thy loving discipline, and the opportunity in this life to work and to serve and to love; for home and school and friendship and all the gladness of living. We thank Thee for the renewed hopes of the spring and the wakening life all about us. Make it seem to us the emblem of the forces within us which Thou art waiting to renew and bring forth into the flower and fruit of honest living. We thank Thee above all for Thine own unspeakable love, for Thou carest for us even as Thou knowest us, altogether. If our souls withhold from Thee the full measure of devotion which we owe Thee, forgive us; if we are bound and fettered with some secret evil or sorrow or anxious care, bring us we pray Thee out into the glorious liberty of the children of God. May we know Thy truth, and the truth shall make us free. Let us see that common life and everyday work may be truly sacramental; help us to rescue daily routine from dullness and drudgery by consecrating all we have and are to Thee. Then shall all life become large and fine and privileged; then shall our horizon expand and our eyes be set afar upon the beckoning fires of noble purposes.

To Thy keeping, O Christ, we commend each other, and all who are dear to us, the young and the old, those by our side and those far away. For all the old fellows of this school we ask Thine especial favor that in the world of men they may acquit themselves like men. And may it be Thy good will and purpose for us that

when we too shall have left this place, it may be the better for all those who come after us. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

ONCE more, Our Father, we enter Thy House with thanksgiving, and give praise to Thee for Thy watchful care over us and for the material comforts which we enjoy. May we not become soft through luxury or weak by reason of indolence. May we keep clearly before us the high ideals of honor and truthfulness and sympathy which Thou hast set before us in the life of Thy Son, and wilt Thou help us to win our daily struggle against anger and dishonest work and impurity. May the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable in Thy sight.

Wilt Thou bless our School, Our Father. May it be in very truth a city set upon a hill whose light cannot be hid, and may many see the light and be glad that some son of The Hill has passed their way.

We would ask Thy blessing upon our country; O Lord, in our public affairs may truth and honesty prevail over graft and greed, and may men of character and ability, men of courage and honor be chosen to rule over us.

Wilt Thou also bless our dear ones in the homes from which we come. May Thy richest blessings attend them and may no careless word or thoughtless deed of ours bring needless sorrow to their hearts.

This, with the forgiveness of our sins and a prayer for the old fellows, we would ask in the name of Thy Son. Amen.

George D. Robins

OUR dear Heavenly Father,

We thank Thee tonight for the joys of good fellowship which come from our close association with one another. Help us to consider them among our most precious possessions. May we overlook the petty faults in others and see only the things which are high, noble and honorable. But, our Father, help us to realize that Thou are the truest and the most loyal friend that we have, because Thou art always with us in times of happiness and dost never forsake us in times of adversity. Help us to appreciate Thy great friendship and may we endeavor to prove ourselves day by day more worthy of it. This prayer we ask with the forgiveness of our many sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

On Lincoln's Birthday, Feb. 12th, 1924

O God, Thou who art the Father of all mankind, we would worship Thee in spirit and in truth, not as One to whom we must pray from any chosen place or at any special hour, but as our Father in whom we live and move and have our being. Teach us always to look to Thee for our help and inspiration, whether we are at our work or play, or assembled here in Thy house. Help us to shut out from our minds especially now all unworthy thoughts, so that the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts may be acceptable in Thy sight.

Our hearts are full of gratitude to Thee for all the gifts of Thy love to us in our daily life, for our homes and friends, for health and strength, for eyes to see the beauty of the earth, and for souls which find no rest until they rest in Thee. We thank Thee for the great leader in our national life whose name we honor this day, for his clear words challenging us to live with malice toward none, with charity for all; for his great heart which rose above hatred and insult and glowed with love toward all his people of every sect and race and creed.

Be with us in all our endeavors to do the right as Thou hast given us to see the right. Grant that the boys of this School may be so informed with the spirit of whatsoever things are true that they may take their places some day as leaders in our nation's councils, and then, when they are beset with doubts and fears and are tempted to yield before the wrong, let them be rallied by the memories and songs and ideals of their School, until their hearts grow strong again and they establish their ranks and go on in Thy name and for Thy sake.

Bless us and all our loved ones tonight, and all the old fellows wherever they are. Give them and us in this world knowledge of Thy truth and in the world to come life everlasting. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O God, the Father of all mankind who understandest all our pleasures and failures, our dreams and disappointments, our angers and hates and jealousies, our every emotion, listen not to our lips but to the fullness of our hearts.

Be near us as we pray and in the light of Thy presence may we see ourselves as we really are and humbly acknowledge our faults. Guide us in our efforts to correct these faults and, if it is Thy will, help us to gain our goal. We pray most humbly for stout hearts that we may never be cowardly, though afraid, for strength that we may play the man when things seem wrong and burdens heavy, for faith that we may hold true to those ideals and dreams of our homes and those who love us and whose faith in us is never shaken.

Quicken within us a love of the truth and a high regard for the rights of others and in this way may we make our lives fair for all to see.

Bless all those who are in trouble, faint-hearted or discouraged. May the peace which passeth all understanding and the knowledge of Thy love refresh them and bring them to the morrow with new strength and power. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

GOD, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for the rich inheritance into which we enter here. We thank Thee for the effort and struggle, the thought and care, the high ideals and Christian love which have builded here for so many years. We thank Thee for the keen interests, the enthusiasms, the alert minds and quiet sympathies, the abounding vitality and vigor of youth.

Grant that what has been built up in this School of method, of system, of ideals and traditions, of a spirit of unselfish service, may under Thy divine guidance be just the needed touchstone to bring out what is best in this body of youth. May they not only be prepared to bear in the future a noble part in the upbuilding of our land in true Christian civilization, but here and now may they live a life of abundant and satisfying happiness.

We thank Thee for the assurance that we need not work alone; that we can come to Thee, our Father, knowing that Thou art ready to listen and eager to help. Teach us our own helplessness to chose the right path and walk therein, and as we feel our own weakness, reveal to us Thy strength, Thy willingness to enter into our lives and become our guide and inspiration.

We pray for all youth now beginning school and college for another year. Grant to them sound character to withstand temptation and lift to a higher level the life of our land, to crown our good with brotherhood. Be with each in our midst tonight. Grant that for each troubled heart there may be both divine aid and human sympathy. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

O Thou who alone knowest the greatness of life, open our eyes to its solemn beauty. May we accept and use it as a great trust; may it never be wasted or cheaply spent. Help us to make the sacrifices which save it; to climb the steeps which lift it; to keep the purposes which clear it. May we respect all who honor it and be grateful to those who have ennobled it, especially those who sheltered our helpless years.

Make us to see how truth guarantees life; how justice establishes it; how kindness brightens it; how sympathy softens it; how service enlarges it; how faith guides it; how hope illumines it. Save us from spoiling the whole of life by a light sense of smaller portions of time, and may each new morning be the sacrament of a fresh consecration. In Christ's name. Amen.

Boyd Edwards

THOU art present with us, O God, in this place and at this time set apart for prayer and praise. But Thou art no less present with us in every place and at every time. Thou dost speak to us out of the bush and the tree, from the fields that utter Thy praise and from the heavens that proclaim Thee. May we have the spiritual ears to hear Thee, and may there be roused in us the mood to respond to all that Thou dost say. If Thou dost speak to us in the quiet voice of duty, may we not reply with excuses. If Thou dost reveal to us the thing we are fitted to do, may we not hold back in weakness of purpose; but do Thou confirm our purposes, and sanctify them to Thine own great ends for us and for the world's good. If a voice is needed to plead for the right, may ours be raised; if vision is needed to solve a hard moral problem, may our sight be quickened for the purpose; if a life is needed in noble self-denial, may ours be the one that shall be offered in surrender to Thy purposes. We know we are slow of speech, and weak of purpose; but Thou hast created all things, and Thou canst make even of the weakest of Thy servants a fit instrument to Thy hand. Give us, then, an overpowering sense of our privilege in working with Thee toward the leading out of Thy people from darkness into dawn—from the Egypt of slavery into the promised land of freedom; and may we see the stern necessity every day of keeping our lives clean and pure that they may be thought fit for Thy divine uses.

Give us the courage to do our daily work; to think and plan in noble, uncompromising terms for our own futures; and reveal to us, as we have strength to endure it, the capacity that is in us; and make us see the need of its consecration to Thee.

Go with all the boys who have in past days learn-

ed their lessons in this school, may the good they have learned remain with them, and increase so that they may become useful citizens in this land and in the brotherhood of the world. Grant peace in our time, and may all warring cease, and may brotherhood reign, for ever.

Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

We thank Thee for light and life; for bodies clean and strong, for the opportunities of developing our minds, and for the many other blessings and benefits which we are deriving from day to day. Almost everyone of us begins seeking his happiness through the act of "getting," and no doubt each day yields its usual amount of such happiness. But in our great desire of "getting," help us not to forget that the deepest satisfaction in life really comes from "serving." As we "get" help us also to "serve." If we have not done some kindly act today, help us on the morrow to do some real kindness or commendable service for our friends. This we ask with the forgiveness of our many sins. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

O Lord, our God, to whom we turn in time of need; be very near us as we lift our thoughts and our evening prayer to Thee. Forgive us, we beseech Thee, for our indifference to Thee and to Thy Word, so often shown, our sins of pride and selfishness, and all our failures to heed Thy will.

We thank Thee humbly for the blessings that come so abundantly without effort on our part. Teach us a due sense of our debt to those into whose labors we have entered, who planned and wrought and suffered that we might reap the reward of their toil. Help us here in School to keep and to increase the inheritance of honor and high-mindedness and noble tradition we receive from the past, handing it on to our successors with new meaning and new life.

We are grateful to Thee for the work, the struggles, the battles of our daily lives. Teach us to be humble and generous in victory and cheerful and manly in defeat.

Guide us on the unknown path that lies before us through the years. Grant that the memories and songs and dreams of boyhood may abide with us as we go forth into the world beyond the life of these school days, to steady us in time of crisis and to hearten us in the hour of trial.

Bless all the old fellows tonight, wherever they are, and all our loved ones, and at last make us all one in Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O Lord, our Heavenly Father; we bow in reverence before Thy will and pray that in the calm and strength of Thy presence we may cast away the petty cares and weakening fears that keep us from strong, happy and well-ordered lives.

Grant us as we prepare for the days ahead a mental discipline and a mental hardness that will enable us to play our part worthily and well. May we guard against the softness of the pleasure-loving mind by holding fast to the vigorous and stimulating thoughts in our reading and the strong and virile personalities that cross our paths.

May we guard against the sort of comfortable drowsiness that comes with a sheltered and easy life and that disguises the urgency of the struggle which is necessary to be true to ourselves, to our ideals and to the traditions that our families have built up through all the years of the past.

And may we so face our world as to bring increasing peace and comfort to all those who love us and so anxiously watch every step that we take. We ask all these things, Our Father, in the name of Him who taught us to pray saying, "Our Father—". Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

Clear is the call that bids us come
  To laud our God and King;
Before His stainless altar high
  Our meed of praise to fling.
The hour is Thine, the place is Thine,
  Jehovah, we Thine own;
Do Thou receive us as we come
  And bow before Thy throne.

Joyous our hearts and glad our song;
  Our pillar goes before;
God's flaming spirit leads us on
  As in the days of yore.
Be ours His righteousness and truth,
  Be ours His spirit-sword;
Be ours the helmet and the shield,
  And ours the living word.

Gird us, O King, for service now;
  Impress us in Thy wars;
Lead us from battle safely home,
  Nor lacking manly scars.
We'll fight the fight and cheer defeat,
  And rise to follow on;
For Thou, O God, art by our side
  Till Heaven itself be won.

HOWARD BEMENT

GOD our Heavenly Father, the heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul; the testimony of the Lord is sure, making wise the simple.

We thank Thee for the physical universe, for its order, its beauty, its obedience to law, the noiseless perfection of its motion. Thoughtful men of all time have been led, with David, to look up "through nature to nature's God:" to believe that such works demand a divine Creator, an Intelligence far transcending human knowledge. So also Thy Word in its simplicity and directness, its high ideals and precepts, its understanding of the human heart and human needs, shows itself to be divine.

The psalmist believed the God of nature and the God of revelation to be one. Help us to be as wise and to know that true science, rightly interpreted, reveals the same God as Thy Word. There never can be any conflict between science and religion except through our imperfect interpretations.

Help us to seek the truth, both from science and revelation, knowing that the one God cannot contradict Himself, but will lead every earnest seeker to the truth.

For Christ's sake. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

O Spirit, worshipped only in spirit and truth, who seekest such as bring these credentials to worship Thee, who waitest with infinite yearning and yet with unwearied patience, and waitest to bless, teach us to desire that blessing, to interpret the hunger of our souls and to know the source of its satisfaction. May we never resent our discontent with those things that are superficial, those achievements that are but on the way to the real. Make us to loathe the mean and the sordid, to turn away from all selfishness and to seek zealously the excellent and the supreme. Spur us on by noble ambitions and lofty aspirations. Give us no rest in the halfway stations of the true journey. Pilgrims to the city that is set on high, may we follow the gleam of every beckoning light of the true course, and feel the thrill of the climb, the tonic of the upper air. Strengthen us against the lure of the byway, and the easy descent as well as the frightful precipice. Lead us to the springs which refresh by the way, and teach us to walk with vigorous and confident steps. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

O God, our Father in Heaven, for all the goodness and beauty of the day that is drawing to a close; for the quiet and peace of the evening that now enfolds us even as Thy love ever wraps us round; for the sense of Thy presence that seems so near in this place and at this hour; for the promise of Thy protection during the hours of the night that are now approaching; for all these things we thank Thee. We thank Thee that we have strength for our labor of the day, and tired healthy bodies for our rest in the night; and we thank Thee that whether we wake or sleep Thou art with us, never withdrawing the sense of Thy presence. In an abiding sense of Thy nearness help us ever to live; make Thyself real to us so that Thou shalt be more than a mere name to us. Quicken our power to love Thee; stimulate our weak purposes of service; and help us to see life as one great opportunity of growth in service and ministration. If we find ourselves at sea, tossed about and sorely beset, come to us on the waters; and may we never doubt Thy power to save us. Mayest Thou never have occasion to say to any of us, "O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?" Stretch forth Thy hand to us, and draw us to the firm ground of implicit belief; and believing, may we be instruments of healing, even as Thou didst heal those who were brought to Thee on the shores of the lake. It is the prayer of our hearts that we may this day have something from Thee that can be communicated to him who needs it.

Go with us as we leave this place; make strong within us every wavering purpose of good; keep us undefiled through the hours of the night, safe from dangers within and without. Keep Thine unwavering watch over the hearts of all who have ever worshipped here—all the old fellows of this school—and let no one of them forget that he is a son of God. Go with our loved ones

at home, and grant to all who follow us here in their thought a comforting sense of our security in Thee. In the blessed name of Thy Son, Christ Jesus, we ask it.

Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

In a few days we return to our homes for the happy Christmas tide. As we leave our duties of school life and face the many happy joys of vacation, help us not to forget our many debts of gratitude. May we realize that our place thus far in life has largely been due to the sacrifices and the devotion of others for us. Grant, therefore, as we make our plans for our own happiness, that we may not do so selfishly, but shall plan how to make happy the heart of some one else. Guide us in acts of serving and of giving, we pray Thee. With a prayer for all whom we love, and for all the old boys of the School, wherever they may be, do we ask this.

Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

MOST merciful father, who dost read the hearts of Thy children, and see all our thoughts and purposes; teach us to pray to Thee in all simplicity and sincerity for the things we need. Give heed to the silent petitions that rise to Thee from those bowed here before Thee, and be very near to us in our weakness and our utter dependence on Thee.

Give us Thy grace and divine courage to do our daily work well. Hearten and inspire all of us who grow weary in well-doing, who fall into doubt and despair, who are sorely tempted to take the easy way or shirk the bearing of their own burdens. Help us to forget our own sorrow and perplexities in trying to minister unto our neighbors and our companions.

As each of us goes on his way home, let him go with Thy blessing and Thy peace in his heart. Keep us from all evil and shame, from low standards of right and duty, and help us to look to Thee, our Lord and Saviour, for our pattern and example in all things. Bless those who eagerly await, and grant that we may go to them with pure heart and untroubled conscience, bringing them the full joy of reunion without regret and without the shadow of failure. This we ask with the forgiveness of our sins, and a prayer for Thy guidance all our days, in Jesus' name. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

GOD, our Heavenly Father; we thank Thee that we can come to Thee, can call Thee Father, can know that Thou wilt surely hear and with divine sympathy answer our prayer. We thank Thee for the assurance that Thou art never weary, nor asleep, never absent, nor indifferent to the call of Thy children.

Teach us to thank Thee for this service, for the atmosphere of Thy house, for the break in the activities of our life and change in the current of our thought, for the quiet opportunity of lifting up our minds to Thee, of bringing unto Thee our joys and fears, our successes and failures.

May each hear the still small voice of Thy Spirit speaking forgiveness and peace, bringing ideals and inspiration, counselling the higher and nobler loyalties.

The greatest and best have prayed to Thee. Jesus Christ renewed His spiritual power by communion with Thee in solitude and quiet. Men pray to Thee because they must obey an impulse from within, because they find human understanding and sympathy insufficient for their needs, and because they know the inadequacy of human aid. No one can come to Thee in prayer without being uplifted and made better.

Give to each one of us the habit of private prayer. May we lift up our hearts to Thee anywhere, at any time, and from any circumstances.

Hear and answer the deepest and truest longings of each heart in Thy presence, and so give us new hope and strength for our lives and work. For Christ's sake we ask it. Amen.

GEORGE Q. SHEPPARD

O Thou God of Ages, who hast watched the mountains take their majestic shape, and the ocean fill its vast caverns, who knowest the whole story of the stars, to whom a thousand years are but a day, who weighest the mountains in scales, and the hills in a balance, and takest up the isles as a very little thing; teach us awe, humility, reverence, and trust. No sparrow falls to the ground outside Thy notice; Thou teachest the birds their path through the trackless skies; Thou makest the grass to grow for cattle and herb for the service of man; Thou clothest the meadows in beauty and the hills in glory; Thou hast made everything beautiful in its season. Open our eyes, we beseech Thee, to behold wondrous things out of Thy law; tune our hearts to Thy kind purposes; mould our wills to obedience to Thy just and gracious laws, grant us the insight to find Thee everywhere and never to dread lest we drift beyond Thy care. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

ONCE again, O God, we turn to Thee, ere another day be sped, with gratitude and penitence. We are grateful for Thy forbearance and long-suffering; for Thy generous fatherhood to us even when we have been ungrateful and neglectful children. We thank Thee that it is so difficult to drive Thee away. Had it been easy we should long ago have been orphaned and desolate. But behold Thou dost always with an infinite patience stand at the door of our hearts and knock; and O forgive us, Lord, that having heard Thy summons to open, we have kept closed the door and gone about our selfish pleasures, blindly sacrificing the Lord Jesus upon the altar of our own worldly desires. Forgive our folly, we beseech Thee, and help us here and now, at the beginning of this new term, to resolve upon a better course; to admit Thee freely into our lives, that our purposes may be better ordered, that our pleasures may be purer, that our lives may be more fruitful. O God, these are solemn days of testing and trial for all the world, and we, in our sheltered school life know little of the sorrow and the bitterness which many, better than we, are called upon to endure. May the thought make us humble in our self-pride, resolute in our decisions for better living, that when Thy great day shall come we may not be separated from those shining ones who have sacrificed all for truth and for the sense of Thine approval.

And so, as we leave this place, tonight, help us to carry with us the continuing sense of Thy nearness, Thy willingness and Thy power to help us. Help us to make an utter devotion of ourselves to our work, raising it from the plane of drudgery to that of sacrificial preparation. And in Thy good time bring in the great day when the old men shall dream dreams and the young men shall see visions, and when in all Thy holy mount there shall be none to kill nor to destroy. Go with us

to our work of the evening, to our recreation, our rest; and grant us safety through the night, health on the morrow, and a continuation of the blessed privileges which Thou hast so long richly bestowed. Bless the old fellows, all our friends and relatives, and keep us all near to Thee; in Christ's name we ask it, Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

Another day in our lives is drawing to a close. As we bow our heads in reverence before Thee, we realize that we did things, said things and thought things which were unworthy of Thee and of Thy kingdom. For those unworthy acts, those debasing expressions, those disintegrating thoughts, we ask Thy forgiveness. But, we pray, help us on the morrow so to mend our ways that what we do will be more acceptable in Thy sight. We realize that most of the errors in our everyday lives are made when we act hastily and without proper consideration. Help us to link up our lives with Thee so that no matter how or when we act, only such things as are honest, faithful and of good report will find a place in our being.

As we ask forgiveness and strength for ourselves, so also would be mindful of the needs of others. We pray that Thou wilt be near to any who are sick in body or in mind. Especially do we pray for those who are disappointed and downcast because of some careless act. Grant, we pray Thee, that the lesson they have learned will so strengthen their character that they will find their true places in due time in Thy kingdom.

HENRY J. COLBATH

O God, Our Father; grant us Thy peace as we meet here to praise Thee. Come into our hearts with Thy healing presence and abide with us until sin and evil are driven from us and we become truly Thy children.

We acknowledge our gratitude to Thee for the yearly remembrance of the birth of Thy Son, for the true hope, the abiding faith, the unfailing courage He has brought to the hearts of men in all the years since first the angels sang at His advent. We thank Thee for all Christmas may mean to us, for the stars that still shine in our skies through mists of ignorance and darkness of human passions, for the Christian songs that touch men's hearts into gentleness and still their tumult and unrest, for the story of our Saviour's birth and childhood, woven into the very fabric of our thought and language and lives. In Thy mercy guard us and keep us as we turn home again at Christmas time to those who love us. Teach us to live always in the spirit of Him before whose lowly manger, long ago, the shepherds knelt, Whose star the wise men followed, and in Whom our fathers in all ages have found salvation. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

Isaac Thomas

O GOD, the giver of every good and perfect gift; we thank Thee for the strength Thou hast given us for every manly effort that we have made today. Whether we have failed or succeeded, we thank Thee for the many happy reactions we received from those efforts, for the increasing strength Thou hast given us to rise above our discouragements. If it is Thy will, Our Father, give us the power to increase those efforts, the power to withstand even greater discouragements, so that we may rise in strength day by day towards the fulfillment of a more useful, a more loyal and a more sympathetic life.

Bless those dear ones at home in whose eyes we are ever precious. Guard them from all danger and unhappiness and may we, O God, through a well-ordered life bring to them increasing peace and comfort. Amen.

STANLEY A. WARD

O GOD, Thou art very close to us. Thou dost stand at the door of our hearts and knock for admittance; and we, poor children that we are, seem blind to Thy nearness and deaf to Thy knocking. Thy presence within us could recreate our lives, and we are content to live alone. With Thee in our hearts we could dream new dreams and see new visions; and we are content to remain aimless and uninspired. With Thine indwelling our problems would be solved, life's course would be clear, and all things would work together for our good; life's difficulties would slip away, and our true goal would shine clear before us. O Thou good and patient Father, forgive us that we have so long and so persistently neglected Thee and forgotten Thee; and help us here and now, as we are again taking up our tasks at school, to give Thee admittance to our hearts and full sway over our lives. Guide, direct, and order them as Thou wilt. Here in this quiet place, with Thy spirit brooding over us, help us to hear Thy voice of pleading and to respond to it. As we take up anew our labors here, Thou art begging us to be not as those who vainly buffet the air; not as those who begin the race all entangled with the snares of the world. Thou dost plead with us to lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin that doth so easily beset us, and to run with steadfastness the race that is set before us. Enter in, O God, and show us the way; teach us how to conquer ourselves, to bring our bodies under, to suffer hardships as good soldiers, to run not uncertainly, but as those who are set upon the prize. Fill us with high and worthy ambitions; fire our zeal for real accomplishment; inflame us with heroic endeavor; make us to see in our daily tasks, no matter how irksome, the materials out of which the web of character is to be spun and the vestments of life eternal are to be woven. Confirm thus our purposes, and touch the lips

of each boy here with the burning coal from Thy high altar. Then shall this place become indeed a sacred place, and the ground whereon we tread shall be hallowed ground. Then shall none be discouraged or cast down, for underneath shall be the everlasting arms.

Fill us with a sense of grateful thanks for all Thy manifold mercies; for the memory of heroic lives lived here which have been well spent in Thy service; and for the traditions of truth and highmindedness that encircle us all about. Make us worthy of all these things, so that when our school course is run here we may leave to those who come after us a memory of loyalty and fidelity and Christlikeness. Bless all the old boys of this school, and comfort with Thy presence the parents of all those who miss their boys from their accustomed ways. We ask it in Christ's name, Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

O Thou great Master, who seest us in this school of life, rouse in us the heart to learn Thy lessons, to see the meaning of the story of mankind. Teach us the language of truth and courtesy. May experience bring us wisdom. May we be guided by the counsel of Thy love. Steady us through the discipline of disappointment. May mysteries not discourage but stir us. Make us patient to advance step by step. By the light of today may we undertake today's task, and may tomorrow find us ready for the next step. Deliver us from morbidness about yesterday and give us forward-looking hearts. Bless the comradeship of discipline and the fellowship of the listening hours. Help us by obedience to keep open the new vision, and by action to make effective the new lesson. Let impulse blossom into resolve and bear fruit in deed. May the torch of truth pass from our hand to the hand of those who follow us, brightly burning, honorably kept, and at last may we hear Thy voice saying, "Well done, enter thou into the joy of Thy Lord." Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

O Lord, Our God, in Whom we put our trust, we pray to Thee in all sincerity and humility. Grant that each petition that rises from our hearts may be a petition not for our own selfish desires, but for generous hearts and charitable minds, and for the will to spend ourselves for others who need our sacrifice.

Give us grace in all our dealings with our neighbors to think first of others, not of ourselves, to deny ourselves and take up our cross and follow our Lord and Saviour, who gave His life that we might not perish but have everlasting life.

Teach us to see clearly what is of profit to a man, and give us courage and wisdom to seek after the things that are eternal. Forbid that in our feverish haste and narrow vision we should lose our souls by striving to gain the things of this world, or that we should cause any of even the least of Thy children suffering or harm by our heedlessness or our pursuit of the foolish desires of our own hearts.

Be expecially near to bless all who work together in Thy service and Thy name in this School. Help us every one to be honest with ourselves with our friends and with Thee. Aid us with Thy divine power in all the work and play of our daily life at The Hill, and give us the spirit of our Saviour Jesus Christ in all our relations with each other.

Bless all who are dear to us this night. Keep us true to them and to their highest hopes and dreams for us and our success. Be with all the old fellows who think of us whenever the hour of prayer comes, wherever they may be in the wide world. Let their prayers and ours rise to Thee now from lips and from hearts that are

free from all evil; help us to answer their prayers in our behalf by doing faithfully every day here in School the work Thou hast given us to do, and at last, when the evening of our day on earth draws near and all these sacred times of worship in Thy house are distant memories, keep us still true to Thee, through Jesus Christ Our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR dear Father in Heaven,

We thank Thee tonight for Friendship. This world is made happy and liveable for us by the presence of friends. A true friend is one who is unselfish, one who is a comfort in time of trouble, one who is always ready to help when assistance is needed, and one who never fails at critical times. Our Father, Thou art that type of friend to us. Oftentimes we are slow and even loath to permit that Thou shouldst live very near to us, except in time of trouble and distress, but when needed Thou art always ready to come. So it is our prayer tonight that we may realize more and more that Thou art the truest and most loyal friend we have. Help us to appreciate Thy friendship and may we endeavor to prove ourselves day by day more worthy of it. Amen.

HENRY J. COLBATH

IN the silence of this quiet place, O God, at the end of the day, we come to beg Thy forgiveness for all that we have done or thought of evil; for all of good that we have neglected. And for the morrow we ask new strength to do better than we have done today. Thy word, O God, is quick to discern the thoughts and intents of the heart, and all things are laid open before the eyes of Him with whom we have to do. Thou knowest us altogether; but knowing us, Thou lovest us still. May the thought make us not fearful, but penitent and humble; and may the conviction of Thy deep and abiding love for us make us quick to respond with our heart's best love for Thee. Be merciful unto us, O Lord, and bless us; and give us stronger impulses to love the highest when we see it. Thou art the Truth, eternal, steadfast; may we love the Truth and make of it that which shall always guide our lives. Our daily problems, our little perplexities, our halting steps in the way of righteousness, our many weaknesses—Thou knowest and seeest all; and we are still Thy children whom Thou lovest and wouldst call aside from following the wandering fires of imperfect ambitions. Teach us here and now the very highest of which we are capable, and may we aspire toward it with all the strength of our souls. So shall we develop into manhood, and usefulness, and self-sacrifice,—and become Thy children in more than name, in very truth because we daily grow more like Thee, whom to know aright is life eternal. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

EVEN when the leaf falls to its last place, Thy plan, O Father, is for its service to that life which shall there be quickened at the spring's awakening. Thus all that has been may bless all that shall be. Thou dost not waste life, Thou makest no end to the living process. Though death seem to blight and decay to dissolve all that lives, there is but transition and the grave of the old becomes the cradle of the new. Comfort our hearts and strengthen our courage by Thy revealed purpose, O Keeper of Life. Enrich us in daily living by those who have lived; may their strength be added to ours, their stature lift us up to wider vision, their light increase the reach and blessing of our flickering candles. Thy winds sweep down the leaves of earth's forests by the myriads, yet they are each in Thy plan a benefit to the life of all. Thy heart is kind, Thy purpose beneficent. Help us to trust. And for all who are forever out of our mortal sight, give us the immortal insight which sees them in Thy care, none lost, none wasted, none gone out of Thy hand. And though our strength fails and our hold on things weakens help us to rest in Thy strength and to know assuredly that all is full of blessing and the end of all is peace. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

All Saints Day

O most merciful Father, who hast sent Thy Son into the world to be our Redeemer and Saviour; hear our prayers and give heed to all the unuttered petitions and longings of our hearts as we turn to Thee.

We thank Thee for all Thy saints in every age and place and nation, who by their devotion and sacrifice have pointed out for us the way to Thee. For all those who came out of great tribulation and finished the course and kept the faith, and at last came into Thy presence, we are unfeignedly thankful. We remember at this time especially, with hearts full of gratitude, Thy children whose very presence seems to hallow this chapel as we gather here, and to make sacred all the places here at The Hill where they lived and worked, whose lives and toil made possible the rich heritage of this School which we enjoy, often so heedlessly, or waste so carelessly.

As we lift our thoughts above the perplexities and anxiety of the day's work, if any one of us is in despair because the strife has been so fierce and the warfare so long, grant that now, in the blessed refuge and quiet of Thy house, bowing before Thee as one great family of Thy children, there may come to us somehow the distant triumph-song of Thy saints, and graciously permit us to feel again the radiant presence of those great souls whom we "have loved long since and lost awhile."

We thank Thee for the strong and devoted boys who are now striving to carry on in this School the finest traditions of the past. Uphold and strengthen them in all their ways and help all of us, whether we be weak or strong in the faith, to look and to strive toward "that bright place where Thou, Eternal Light of Light, art Lord of all."

In our prayers we would remember all the old fellows wherever they are serving Thee. Grant that their memories of The Hill may be bright and radiant and inspiring tonight, and that at last we may all be united in Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O God, our heavenly Father, grant through the grace that is given us in Christ Jesus, Our Lord, that we may order the thoughts of our hearts and all our imaginings so that from them may proceed good works. Out of the fulness of the heart the mouth speaketh. O grant, dear Lord, that our speech may be clean because the wells of it are undefiled; grant that our deeds may be honest because the source of them is pure. May it be revealed to us tonight that we can never be better than our aspirations; that we can never be purer than our own thoughts; that we can never do better nor fight more nobly than the promptings of our own hearts. Help us, in Thy strength and purity, to search ourselves in mind and heart, and see if there be any wicked way in us; and help us indeed, to be imitators of God as revealed to us in Jesus Christ, through whom our way is made plain. Let us turn aside from the things of darkness and follow the things of light; make us not ashamed for the secret things of our lives to be made open; make us to awake from our sleep of indifference to Thy will for us; and cause us to walk wisely, redeeming the time, and knowing in wisdom what the will of the Lord is. We are grateful, O God, for all Thy goodness to us. May we continue in gratitude to work the works of grateful children of Thine, doing always with our might what our hands find to do. We ask these blessings not for ourselves alone, but for all erring men everywhere; for those we love; and for the old fellows of this school. Lead us all in the path to life everlasting, and forgive us our sins, in the blessed name of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.

Howard Bement

On the Eve of Thanksgiving

O most merciful Father, who hast brought us safely to the evening of another day, and hast given us far more than we merit of the good things of life, we humbly thank Thee for the comfort and happiness and plenty which fill all our days. Give us grateful hearts for the evidence of Thy divine love which has been ours in unstinted measure. Grant that we may never forget Thee in all our prosperity, or forget Thy needy children all about us in the world.

Especially at this time, when Thy people prepare to offer up to Thee their service of prayer and praise and thanksgiving, and families are gathering in their homes throughout our peaceful land, do Thou, O God, keep them and us from the sin of selfishness. Teach us true generosity, make us ever mindful of the poor and the afflicted and all those who in any way need us. Grant that something of Thy divine love which never lets us go may shine forth in our lives and may bring strength and courage and comfort to all whom we meet in the daily ways of life. Keep us from greed and the gross sins of selfishness and from the subtle forms of evil, from indifference and carelessness toward our brothers everywhere. We would remember this night in our heartfelt prayers all who are hungry or lonely or discouraged, the broken in heart and bruised in spirit. Sustain and comfort all such with Thy presence, and touch the hearts of all of us who are more fortunate and quicken our spirits that we may see in the least of these Thine own image, and in the need of others a great opportunity of serving Thee.

Be especially with our loved ones at home. Let every memory of them be a challenge to us to do our

best. Guard us through the coming night, and through all our days until at last we come home to Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

OUR dear Father in Heaven: take us, we pray Thee, into the hill tops of inspiration, where we may see Thee in all Thy glory, and know Thee in all Thy beauty. Reveal Thyself unto us in the whiteness of Thy perfection; make pure our hearts that we may see God. And O, our Father, help us then to descend from our mountains of transfiguration to mingle among men, even as Christ Jesus came down from His mountain into the valley of human suffering to relieve those who had need of Him. May we, dear Lord, always have grace wherewith to translate our visions into acts—our dreams into realities. May we always see the need of our brother more clearly because we have first seen Thee. Help us here at school to take all the inspiring things that come into our lives and make of them the capital that shall be spent for the needs all about us. Give us vision to see that need and our own capacity to minister to it; give us strength to execute our purposes of ministration that our sins may be no more as in the past the sins of omission which shall, in that great day to come, rise to accuse us. Grant us this very night earnest purposes of good; help us more than ever before to resolve highly; and give us, if it may be, some measure of success in becoming Thy loyal sons whose delight it is to serve the Father.

Bless our friends, our relatives, all the old fellows of this school; and grant that what we have asked for ourselves may be Thy rich gift extended to them also. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

Before Christmas

O God, our Heavenly Father, as we draw near the season when our Saviour's birth is celebrated, we are made to think how Thou didst send Thy Son into the world to live for us, to teach us, and to redeem us. We thank Thee for all Thy good and perfect gifts, but above all for Thine inestimable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord, Jesus Christ. Forbid that in our carelessness we should forget Thee, or take Thy Name pro fanely on our lips, or refuse to see in our blindness The Light which came into the world when Thy Son came to earth, or harden our hearts against the Word which was made flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth.

We thank Thee because Thou hast sent Thy Son not as a king to slay our foes and lift us high, but as a little child who increased in wisdom and stature, whose mother kept all His sayings in her heart. So keep us in all our ways here at School that those who love us most may treasure in their hearts our words of affection, our deeds of kindness, and our thoughts of pure and unselfish service.

Teach us day by day to do our work, however dull and unimportant it seems, as if in Thy sight. Lift each task from the low level of compulsory routine to the realm of things done to Thy glory, that we may truly say we are about our Father's business. Keep us from the idlesness that destroys our wills and the aimlessness that makes us weak and useless.

Strengthen the weak, Thou Strong Son of God, Immortal Love, comfort the sorrowing, hearten the discouraged and renew the spirit of hope and determination among all who are defeated and dismayed. Help us to

make the best of what is left to us of this term at School, and to go to our homes and to all the joy and beauty and peace of Christmas with clear consciences and cheerful hearts, in the spirit of Him before whose lowly manger, long ago, the shepherds knelt, whose Star the wise men followed, and in whom our fathers in all ages have found salvation. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

WE would not, O Father, walk in darkness, and yet we are so loth to admit the light of Thy presence into our lives. We would not stumble and fall, and yet we are daily hurt and bruised because we will not let Thee be our guide. We are such foolish and aimless children of Thine, O God, and we wonder sometimes how Thou canst be so patient with us. We should not be so patient with our own brothers; we judge harshly those whose faltering steps may be more firmly planted in the way of righteousness than our own. Sometimes, as we come into this place of prayer, we marvel at our own littleness; and then the more we wonder at Thine own greatness of spirit and kindness of judgment. If Thou didst judge us according to our merits, we should be outcasts indeed. But Thou art our father, loving us as children even when we neglect Thee and spurn Thy counsel and seek to avoid Thy kindly searching eye. We are daily judged—not by Thee in Thy goodness, but by our own shortcomings, our own wilfulness, our own sinfulness. Cleanse us this night of pride, of self-reliance, of stubbornness, of self-deception; and help us again to walk in the light that darkness overtake us not; may we become sons of light because we believe on the light, even the Son of God, our Saviour, Jesus Christ. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

O God, our Father, whom men have sought in all ages, whom we seek now, in the calm of Thy house as the evening shadows lengthen and peace comes to the world and stars to the sky; grant that we may find Thee in the days of our youth, while the light is still sweet to our eyes and the beauty of the earth still rejoices our hearts. Help us to open the doors of our hearts to Thee, and enter Thou in to reign there forevermore.

Give us courage to do our work faithfully and with all our might each day, whether it seems to us to prosper or not. Make us steadfast and cheerful and strong to take what Thou dost send us, to do Thy will as best we can, to think more of others than of ourselves. And we beseech Thee, O Lord, to make us more keenly conscious of Thy presence in our hearts. In all the fleeting changes of our mortal lives, give us wisdom to anchor our affections in Thine infinite love, and our hopes in Thine unbounded mercy unto the sons of men. Help us to serve Thee, not with lip-service only, but to worship Thee by living better lives, by being more true and sincere and by serving all our fellows unselfishly and generously.

Keep us and all whom we love throughout the coming night, defend us from perils and fears and evil thoughts and all that makes us unhappy and less worthy of being Thy children. And at the last, when our tasks on earth are done, give us in Thy kingdom rest and peace and gladness, where shadows and darkness and sorrow are never found, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

THY voice comes to us out of the far distant past, but we hear it clearly and distinctly today as Thou dost say, "Do justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with thy God." Thou dost not ask of us burnt offerings nor oblations of oil; Thou art not content with the mere formalism of our religion, that our heads should bow and that, with hands outstretched, we should come bearing gifts, as though Thou didst need anything. It is naught to Thee that we should come into Thy house, to perform the ceremonial of worship, and to go out into the world again with untouched heart. Thou dost ask that inner worship which is of the heart, and mind and soul; that worship which goes out in voluntary love to Thee who hast first loved us; that worship which prompts sacrifice of self and adoration of Thee which stirs us to show our love in deeds. Give us love of justice, and fair dealing, and fair play; justice that is quick to recognize virtue in the least of our fellows and to recognize our own shortcomings; that prompts us to pluck the beam out of our own eye before seeking to pluck the mote out of our brother's eye. Give us love of mercy and generous judgement—the mercy that cherishes no grudge and carries in the heart no sense of offense; the mercy that does unto others even as we would that others do unto us. Give us the grace to walk humbly with our God, drawing in from Him the sense of strength and courage that shall be the greater because of our own humility. Help us thus as lovers of justice and mercy and meekness to go all our lives long; and at the end of all to merit Thy merciful goodness to us, and Thy loving word, "Well done, good and faithful servant; enter thou into the joy of thy Lord." So when the shadows of evening fall about our lives, and the day comes to

its end, and the night enfolds us round, may we enter the dark valley unafraid and well content, confident in Him in whom we have believed. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

O most Merciful Father, hear us each one as we call upon Thee this night and accept our evening sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. We thank Thee for all Thy good and perfect gifts, for the radiant beauty of earth and sky, for the inspiring words we have heard in this Thy House today, for the friends who fill our lives with happy comradeship, for the love of those dearest to us which holds us steady in the time of temptation and true to Thee in the hour of trial. Open our eyes to see the beauty of Thy world and the beauty of Thy holiness. Open our hearts to feel the comfort and strength of Thy presence in our lives.

Make us reverent of spirit as we bow before Thee. Take from us all thoughts that are not holy and pure, especially in this sanctuary. Help us to wait upon the Lord, so that we may renew our strength and mount up with wings as eagles, that we may run and not be weary, and walk and not faint. Hallow and bless to our good every experience we meet in the fleeting hours of mortal life; make us strong to face every disappointment and to carry every burden cheerfully.

In our petitions we would remember all the old fellows, wherever they are, and all for whom we should pray. Grant them and us Thy peace, O God, and Thy benediction. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O God, Who dost love us even more than we can love ourselves, who wouldst not lose one sheep from Thy fold, nor see one of Thy children fall; who dost see more in each one of us of manliness and nobility than we can aspire to of ourselves; help us, we pray Thee, to regard our own salvation as Thou dost regard it; help us to strive for the expression of the best that is within us even as Thou hast striven for it through all the years; and help us even more to strive for the saving of every soul with which Thou hast brought us in contact, that no sheep may be lost from Thy fold. Give us that divine sense of responsibility for ourselves and our fellows that shall make it impossible to hinder the difficult upward struggle of another; and because we have set our feet in the right path, help us to make it easier for another to follow therein. May we each day lighten our own burden by sharing the burden of another; may we each day travel further along the road that leads to Thee, because we have another by the hand; may we each day see Thee more clearly because from our own countenances is reflected into our brother's face the light that comes from Thee. Go Thou with us all the days of our lives, and grant unto all whom we love Thy constant presence, and all those things for which we ourselves pray. In Christ's Name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

On Good Friday

O Lord our God, the Light of every man that cometh into the world, we thank Thee because Thou didst send Thy Son into the world to live among men, to bear witness to the Truth, to suffer and die for us upon the cross. On this day when all who bear the name and sign of Christ are turning their thoughts to "that far-off divine event" on Calvary, we would pray to Thee in all earnestness for wisdom to understand the meaning of the Cross and for courage to endure all our own sorrow and anguish and suffering with cheerful fortitude.

Touch our lives with the beauty of Christ's love for all mankind, that we may live among our fellows in peace and sympathy and helpfulness. Help us to keep before our eyes His spotless life, His untroubled faith, His supreme courage and His utter devotion to Thee and to all who lift up their hearts to Thee in every part of the world. Lead us in the way of Truth that sets us free from prejudice and hatred and narrowness. Make us quick to see and help those about us who need us, eager to go on errands of mercy, strong to endure temptation, gentle to touch with hands that comfort those who doubt or suffer or dwell in sorrow. And grant that beyond the suffering of the Cross we may always see the glory of the Resurrection.

Keep our loved ones this night and evermore in Thy care, be with all the old fellows of this School in their various ways and places, and at last save us all in Thy kingdom. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

WHAT, O God, shall be our prayer at this first service of the term? For we would come to Thee, not with vain words on our lips nor false hopes in our hearts. Let us sense our greatest need; and then let us, with Thy divine aid and guidance, strive for its speedy fulfillment. Thou hast spoken to us through Thy word, and hast revealed to us what we should have. Give us then, the humility of the publican, and the teachable spirit of the little child. Make of us, this term, humble and sincere seekers after the Truth. May we cry with him whom Jesus justified, "God, be Thou merciful to me, a sinner;" and may we take home to our hearts the words, "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall in no wise enter therein." In humble teachable spirit, O God, help us to walk all through these weeks that lie before us; to Thine eternal glory and to our own divine growth in goodness and gentleness and power.

Bless our friends, the old fellows of the School, and every influence in the world that is working for the coming of the Kingdom of God. In Christ's name we ask it. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

Wednesday Before Easter

OUR Father in Heaven, God of all comfort, who didst send Thy Son into the world to save us from sin and death; hear our prayer, we beseech Thee. We would worship Thee always, but especially at this season when Thy children everywhere in the wide world are turning to meditate upon the passion and the death of Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Grant that all the beauty and the power of Christ's human love may somehow touch our lives and make them blossom into lives of righteousness. May the very memory of His untroubled faith and spotless life through the dark days of His bitter anguish, ennoble and enrich our souls until the shadow of evil flees away from us and the day of purer thoughts and finer virtue shines in our daily lives here at School.

Teach us, O Saviour, to treasure the holy memories waked and stirred in us at this season, when our souls are steeped in sacrament. Give us eyes to behold the sacredness of all human souls, our friendships, our common deeds of kindness, our instincts for all that is good and high and holy. Let the remembrance of Thy body given for us and Thy blood, which was shed for us, be so real in our thoughts that we may live ever as in Thy sight.

Give us grace to accept all the sacraments of life with reverent lips and thankful hearts. Make us gentle toward all Thy creatures, toward all mankind. Make us swift to help those who need us and strong to rescue those who suffer or are in any way distressed. Help us to touch the world about us with hands that heal and comfort.

Grant this night that we and all our loved ones and all the old fellows may sleep in the peace of the Lord,

forgetting the sin and vanities of the world; that on the morrow we may rise refreshed in virtue and grace, and that at the last day we may be lifted up with Thee to eternal life, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

WE know, O God, that we are too apt to be half-hearted in that which should command all our devoted interest. Forgive us that we should be lukewarm, neither hot nor cold. Forgive us that, inert and supine, we settle back in our comfort when great thoughts and compelling emotions are knocking at our heart for entrance. Help us, when we come into this holy place, not to be lukewarm; help us to be alert and eager to respond to the sense of Thy presence. When we sing Thy praise, may we sing whole-heartedly; when we listen to Thy word, may we listen with undivided attention; when we pray, may we utter our petitions and seek Thy presence with whole hearts. When we work at our studies, may we work with all our might; when we play our games, may we play with all our might; may we always do with our might what our hands find to do, and may we nevermore be feeble, weak, lukewarm. May the zeal, the freshness, the eagerness of our youth be exhibited in everything we do, and always to Thy glory and honor and to our own growth in strength and goodness. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

O God, our Heavenly Father, we come before Thee at the end of the day to pray for Thy forgiveness of our sins and failures, to offer Thee our praise and thanks, and to seek Thy help for the work, Thy courage for the struggles, that lie ahead of us all. In Thy divine mercy forgive us for all we have said or done today that was unworthy of Thy children. Help us to repent by doing better in the future, by fighting with courage and resolution against our weaknesses and besetting sins.

We thank Thee with hearts filled with gratitude for Thy many good gifts to us, for health and strength of body, for the pleasures of mind and spirit, for friends who help us to be better, for the noble traditions of this place, for memories of those who made this School great, and for our high hopes of the future. Grant that we may each one remember the share we have in making and keeping The Hill a school where Thy name is held in reverence, where all work together for the upbuilding of Thy Kingdom on earth.

Teach us to keep our hearts with all diligence, free from shameful things and thoughts, free from envy and hatred and meanness, and filled with courage and tenderness and truth. Be with all who love us, this night, and with all the old fellows, and at last save us in Thy Kingdom. In His name who taught us to pray. Amen.

Isaac Thomas

WE hear so much at school, O God, of the dedication of our lives to service; but as yet our lips have not been touched with the live coal from off Thy altar; and our souls have not been purged clear by the clear flame of Thy holy spirit within us. Startle us from our inactivity; rouse us with the sharp goad of Thy holy word; release us through Thy love and Thy ambition for us from sloth and inertia and mental laziness. Lift us up by Thy strength from contentment with mediocre attainments and set our eyes on high ideals of service and of self-dedication. Make us afraid, O God, to accept with complacency these privileges that are ours without their accompanying burden of responsibility. To whom much is given, of them Thou dost expect much. How shall we escape from Thy expectation of us? Make us not to want escape; make us long for the true spirit of self-dedication, and give us a divine yearning to be sent upon Thine errands of healing to a world that is sore troubled. Help us to see in each day's tasks here accomplished the flame from off the altar, to see the cross of Christ, who came not to be ministered unto, but to minister. Inflame us with a new zeal for self-cultivation that we may be the better fitted for the leading of the blind, the healing of the sick, the comforting of the sorrowing, the uplifting of the downtrodden. Only thus can we be sons of Thine; and only thus may we hear Thee say, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter thou into the joy of Thy Lord." Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

O Most Merciful Father, be very near to us as we pray to Thee. Make us consious of Thy Presence, of Thy Love which never lets us go, of Thy Spirit ever ready to enter our hearts. Grant that we may offer our praise and our petitions in such sincerity and simplicity that our prayers will be answered by our knowing that Thou art here among us now. Thou hast so loved the world that Thy Son came among men to heal their sorrows and to take away their sins. Help us to realize that we, in all our insignificance, are still Thy children, and are the objects of Thy divine, unceasing care.

Teach us to live Thy praise here at School by dealing honestly with our neighbors, by speaking the truth, by helping one another. We thank Thee for every chance we have had to act justly, to be kindly, to make the School better by our presence. Give us a keener sense of our debt to our fellows, to the School and to Thee. Give us eyes to see beyond our present perplexities, our small anxieties about things that pass away; to see, beyond the confusion and hurry of our feverish ways, the things that are eternal, the things so often unseen—Thy great compassion for us, Thy never-failing patience with our sinful mistakes, Thy love most full and free, Thy Son, waiting to enter our hearts.

Be with all who care for us and cherish high hopes for us. Forbid that we should fail them by our indolence or indifference. Bless all Thy children everywhere and teach us all Thy charity, until at last we come to Thee in perfect peace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Isaac Thomas

O God, it is the prayer of our hearts this night that a double portion of Thy blessing be upon us. If this be a hard thing for us to ask, it is not because Thou art unwilling to grant it, for Thou art eager to bless us. It is, rather, that it is hard for us to see Thee because our eyes are blinded; because they are turned so much away from Thee unto the things of the world. Give us then true hearts of repentance, meet for Thy blessing, and eager eyes of spiritual vision to behold Thy presence, which is always so near to us, so imminent, so willing to bless us beyond all our knowledge and deserving.

We need to see Thee more in our daily tasks. Help us not to shrink from them, because out of them shall proceed the issues of life and character. Help us to associate Thee not alone with things sacred and apart, but with the hourly work and pleasure of school life. Thou art not a being throned afar, but Thou art "nearer than breathing, closer than hands and feet." Thou art strong to aid and quick to help. We need Thy help—the inspiration of Thine eternal spirit to purify our ambitions and to strengthen our purposes. Bless the School in all its activities; bless every boy here that each may contribute to the upbuilding of Thy kingdom here; and bless all the interests of the School represented at a distance in the lives of all who have in the past lived and worked here.

And, O God, wilt Thou be especially near to all of this School as we wait for the promise of the Easter-tide. May there be repeated here, among masters and boys alike, the story of Thy passion and crucifixion and resurrection. May we, like Thee, fight down in us all that would lead to a betrayal of the highest in us—all that would mean in our lives a cowardly betrayal of Thee; may we put to death our members in Christ; and with Thee may we experience a resurrection; may the flood-

tides of a new hope and a new purpose pour in upon us; and as the experiences of this week-end come and go, may they leave us newly created to better service and more loyal devotion to Him who died for us, and gave all that we might live. May we value for noble uses these lives Thou hast sanctified; and wilt Thou use them ever for the redemption of others. In Christ's name. Amen.

HOWARD BEMENT

On John Meigs' Birthday

WE thank Thee, O Lord, for this day of remembrance of Thy servant, strong, impetuous, devoted to Thy service, who built this School and left us here the high heritage we enjoy now, all too thoughtlessly. Grant that his radiant vigor and robust faith in Thee may somehow touch our hearts and our lives again, may dispel lurking doubt of ourselves or our usefulness in Thy work, may shine through our gloom and banish our fears, may lead us through all the shadows and darkness and sorrow of this life of dust and shadows, until at last we come to that bright place

> "Where Thou, eternal Light of Light,
> Art Lord of all."

Consecrate to our good all pure and holy memories, all noble thoughts stored deep in our inmost hearts from earliest days, and let shine upon us still the light of faces "loved long since and lost awhile."

Bless our loved ones at home and all who pray for us. Grant that their prayers in our behalf may be answered in our better lives here in School. Keep us in Thy peace, guard us all the day long, and finally make us all one in Thee. In Christ's dear name we ask it. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O Lord, our God who madest earth and heaven, darkness and light, who hast given us the day for toil and the night for rest; be very near to each one of us as we bow before Thee and lift up our hearts to Thee in prayer and praise. Thou hast sheltered us from harm and danger and filled our lives with the blessing of work worth doing, and given us strength sufficient for each task. We thank Thee for all Thy mercies and beseech Thee to keep us ever mindful of them, that we may do Thy will without complaint and without excuse.

We thank Thee, our Father, that we are permitted to lift up our eyes unto the hills, whence cometh our help and inspiration and the challenge to use well all our powers of mind and body and spirit in Thy work. Teach us to make our way upward day by day, leaving the low levels of complacency and self-satisfaction and contentment with material comfort, and mounting toward the heights of self-sacrifice and self-denial. Give us courage when the road is steep and an unfaltering trust in Thee when the way is lonely.

We thank Thee for this School set upon a hill, with all its noble traditions and high ideals and lofty aspirations, for the way marked out for us to follow, for the voices from the past that still speak their challenge to us, the memories that bless our lives and inspire us, and the unfading light kindled long ago by loyal hearts which shines upon our path. Grant that each of us may hear these voices and be thrilled by these memories, and walk in the light, guarding with jealous care for future generations the rich heritage of the past, and teach us to live in the spirit of Him who died for us on the cross lifted upon that green hill far away.

All this we ask, with Thy richest blessing on our loved ones and on all those who serve Thee here and those who have gone forth from this hilltop into the world to do Thy will, for His sake who taught us to pray. Amen.

ISAAC THOMAS

O God, Our Heavenly Father, hear us as we pray to Thee. Grant that we may open our hearts to Thy Spirit as we meet in Thy House at the end of this day, to praise Thee and to seek Thy blessing. Grant that that mind may be in us which was also in Christ Jesus, and teach us to work out our own salvation, each in his own place here at The Hill.

Be especially near to every new boy among us, whose record is still to be made and whose name is still to be written among the names of those who have served Thee faithfully and well in this School. Help any who are sick at heart with longing for home, turn their weakness to strength as they remember the prayers of those who sent them here to grow not only in stature but into the likeness of Thy Son, in whose name we pray and through whose intercession we come before Thee. In Thine infinite wisdom and mercy grant that each one of us, old and new alike, may answer those prayers in our behalf by our own better lives among our fellows in School. Teach us to look more and more to Thee as our Father, and to the place in which Thou hast put us as our home, and to Jesus Christ as the great leader of us all and the Captain of our salvation.

Give us wisdom to use aright all our new opportunities here in the new school year. Keep us from every act or thought of dishonor or weakness or shame. Give us, we pray Thee, strength to be men and not to cause those who love us to feel ashamed of our cowardice or pettiness. Be with and bless all who work in Thy Name here. Enlighten our minds and quicken our spirits, so that we may shine as lights in the world, and may come to Thee at last, free from stain of sin.

Be with all the old fellows everywhere; keep them and us, and make us all one in Thee at last, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen. ISAAC THOMAS

At Faculty Meeting at Opening of the School Year

WE thank Thee, our Father, for this high trust to which we come, in which we both spend and find our lives. We remember in honor those whose vision and service made it high. Fulfill unto us the nobler hopes and purposes of our earlier years and fulfill through us the happiness, progress and growth of these eager young lives entrusted to our guidance. Keep us friendly, patient, wise and inspiring to them. Make us worthy that they should respect us and remember us with honor and gratitude. Make this year fine and strong in all that is manly and generous and loyal. Especially help us all to learn the chivalry of comradeship in a great cause, the rich rewards of fidelity and the beautiful blessing of friendship out of young hearts that open honestly toward life's great values, understanding the truth and living it out in service of their fellows. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Faculty Meeting at Opening of New School Year

AS we come again to one of the markers of our life's journey, we pray, our Father, that we may be renewed in the spirit of our work, the joy of our comradeship, the solemn sense of the sacred trust committed to us. Help us to live the great life, that all our silent and unconscious influence may bless and gladden and establish all who know us. Make us memorable to these boys for the integrity, the fidelity, the friendliness of our lives. Teach us how to give them something they can never lose because it has formed a part of themselves and become a purpose and a power in them. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Opening of Faculty Meeting

O Thou Great Teacher of the hearts of men, who hast promised that the truth shall set us free, help us each one so to think of his daily task as to lift it up to the level of service to Thee and to our great day.

Give us strength to do it all with a fidelity and zeal worthy of the destinies of lives entrusted to our moulding and finding. Make us such men as deserve to be remembered with gratitude and inspiration. Give us eyes to see how great a privilege it is to clear the purposes of a boy, to establish his integrity, and to make his spirit right and strong.

Deliver us from all pettiness, from all dullness of heart and from all unkindness. Teach us in patience and good will to sympathize with those who grope for a trail we were long in finding, and who have yet to learn great lessons we are still pondering.

Bind us together in such a generous comradeship as alone can advance a cause that depends upon our loyalty to each other in a sacred trust. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Faculty Meeting, June 9th, 1924

WE thank Thee, our Father, for the fellowship we have enjoyed in the year which now draws toward the close, for all that life offers us here of opportunity for growth and for service; especially for what life asks of us here of sympathy, patience, wisdom and character. Bless these lads who have been our great opportunity during the year and give our meaning to them something worthy to be remembered with respect, affection and gratitude. So long as life may continue on the earth for each one of them, wherever they may journey, may something we have spoken or lived abide in their hearts to bless and guide them. For Christ's sake. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Faculty Meeting

OUR Father, as this term draws near its close and another stage of life is measured for us, help us to remember that the reward of a thing well done is to have done it. Bless those labors of ours in which our best efforts have been expressed and give us a steadfast purpose for high service still in this great cause. Guide these young lives, dear to Thee and to us, into all truth, that they may be free, and guard them from all hurt and shame that they may be happy. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Faculty Meeting

OUR Father, grant that we may so enter upon the work of this term with fresh enthusiasm and eagerness for our high task, and serve with such wisdom and power that we may advance in happy comradeship, that these boys may grow into truer manhood and the school may rise into finer success and service to mankind. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

At Faculty Meeting Opening Spring Term, 1928

WE would not enter upon the work of this term, Our Father, without quieting our hearts for Thy blessing. Give us all a great good-will for our work—"a task too fine for haste, too high for rivalry." Make us loyal to each other in this noble comradeship, faithful to our duty, friendly to our boys, wise and patient and generous and full of true understanding. Crown the year with Thy rich blessing and make it memorable for happiness and honor and clearing, widening horizons for everyone among us. Bless every family represented on this hill-top and bind us all together in the love of truth and the spirit of service. As we teach others, teach us, O Master, how to be calm and gentle and strong and kind. In Christ's name. Amen.

BOYD EDWARDS

Lord, through changing days, unchanging,
  Thou the Light our fathers knew;
Through our widening ways, far ranging,
  Let Thy splendor claim us too;
    Go beside us,
    Lead and guide us
To whatever things are true.

Be the path through vale, up mountain,
  Through the cloud, or through the blue,
By smooth field and silver fountain,
  Or parched desert, struggled through;
    Hold before us,
    Kindle o'er us
Whatsoever things are true.

Past all sham of small succeeding,
  Sordid gains that call and woo,
Lift us by Thy mighty leading
  Fit for Thine aspiring few;
    Hold us serving,
    All unswerving
Whatsoever things are true.

WALTER RUSSELL BOWIE

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